

Duel Plans Emerging

J. STEINHAEUER
HELENE COOPER

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WASHINGTON — House Speaker John A. Boehner and the Senate majority leader, Harry Reid, were preparing separate backup plans to raise the nation's debt ceiling Sunday, after the leaders were unable to end an increasingly grim standoff over the



Chinese students from Hangzhou visit the U.S. Capitol in Washington, Sunday, July 24, 2011. House Speaker John A. Boehner and the Senate majority leader, Harry Reid, were preparing separate backup plans to raise the nation's debt ceiling Sunday, after the leaders were unable to end an increasingly grim standoff over the federal budget.

(AP Photo/J. Applewhite)

federal budget. The dueling plans emerged as lawmakers appeared to miss a self-imposed deadline of 4 p.m. Eastern time to cut a deal before markets open in Asia.

And at about 6 p.m., President Barack Obama began a meeting with Reid and the House Democratic leader, Nancy Pelosi, in the Oval Office to discuss the Reid proposal.

Reid, the Senate's top Democrat, was trying Sunday to cobble together a plan to raise the government's debt limit by \$2.4 trillion through the 2012 election, with spending cuts of about \$2.5 trillion.

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People pay tribute to victims of the twin attacks outside Oslo Cathedral, Sunday, July 24, 2011. The man blamed for the terrorist attacks on Norway's government headquarters and an island retreat for young people that left scores dead was motivated by a desire to bring about a revolution in Norwegian society, his lawyer said Sunday.

(AP Photo/Scanpix, Berit Roldal)

Norway suspect admits 'facts' of massacre, but not guilt

S. ERLANGER
ALAN COWELL
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OSLO, Norway — The Norwegian man charged with the attacks in and near Oslo that killed over 90 people has admitted "to the facts" of the case, the police and his lawyer said on Sunday, and says he acted alone in a strike eerily foretold in a detailed manifesto calling for a Christian war to defend Europe against the threat of Muslim domination.

But "he is not admitting criminal guilt," the acting police chief in Oslo, Sveinung Sponheim, told a news conference, and his claim to have acted alone contrasted with "some of the witness statements," Reuters reported. The attacks on Friday — a bombing in central Oslo closely followed by a bloody rampage against young people on nearby Utoya Island

— was the deadliest attack in this Nordic nation since World War II, and it stunned

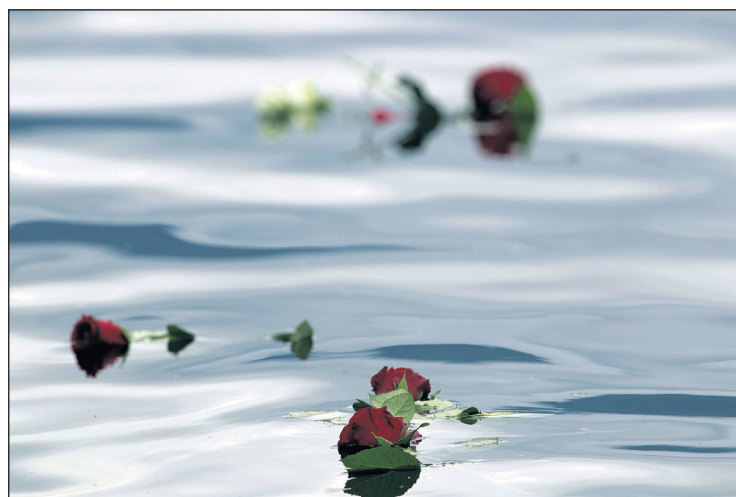
many in a population of about 5 million who consider their country to be a

haven of peace.

The police said on Sunday that the number of fatalities had risen to 93 from 92 with the death of one of the 97 people who had been reported as injured. Most of the bodies were found on Utoya Island, where young people from the governing Labor Party had gathered for an annual camp.

The police identified the suspect as Anders Behring Breivik, 32, a right-wing fundamentalist Christian. Acquaintances described him as a gun-loving Norwegian obsessed with what he saw as the threats of multiculturalism and Muslim immigration.

Police divers were still searching the lake around Utoya Island for bodies, and said there were fears the death toll could rise again.



Mourning roses cast by sympathizers float in the lake near the island of Utoya, Norway, Sunday, July 24, 2011. A Norwegian dressed as a police officer gunned down at least 84 people at an island youth retreat on Friday before being arrested. Investigators are still searching the surrounding waters, where people fled the attack, which followed an explosion in nearby Oslo that killed seven.

(AP Photo/Frank Augstein)

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Separate plans emerging as debt ceiling talks languish

Continued from front Page

Those cuts could affect some of the biggest entitlement programs, though Democrats would seek to avoid this.

Notably, the plan would not contain any new or increased taxes, an approach that many in his caucus would probably balk at. The contours of Boehner's backup plan were far from clear, but it seemed likely to take the form of a two-step process, with a short-term increase in the debt limit along with about \$1 trillion in cuts, an amount the Republicans said was sufficient to clear the way for a debt limit increase through year's end. That would be followed by future cuts guided by a new legislative commission that would consider a broader range of trims, program overhauls and revenue increases.

Both sides would also be given another chance to vote on a balanced budget amendment that would set stringent guide-

lines for future debt ceiling increases.

"The preferable path would be a bipartisan plan

News Sunday" interview. "If that's not possible, I and my Republican colleagues in the House are prepared to



Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., holds his hand up as he whispers to House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, during a photo opportunity in the House Speaker's office before a meeting on the debt limit increase on Capitol Hill in Washington on Saturday, July 23, 2011. Boehner and Reid were preparing separate backup plans to raise the nation's debt ceiling Sunday, after the leaders were unable to end an increasingly grim standoff over the federal budget.

(AP Photo/Harry Hamburg)

that involves all the leaders, but it is too early to decide whether that's possible," Boehner said during a "Fox

move on our own." Leaders of both parties continued to negotiate over the telephone. In a

conference call with Republican lawmakers that lasted over an hour, Boehner said he was seeking "a vehicle that can pass in both houses," according to someone on the call, who added that Boehner made an emotional appeal to his fellow Republicans to stick together.

"I do think there is a path," Boehner said. "But it's going to require us to stand together as a team. It's going to require some of you to make some sacrifices. If we stand together as a team, our leverage is maximized, and they have to deal with us. If we're divided, our leverage gets minimized." One freshman lawmaker on the call described Boehner as sounding weary but that he appeared to have the broad support of his members. This person said that many Republicans were focused on getting at least caps on future spending as a percentage of the gross domestic product, or some version of a balanced budget amendment, which was passed as part of broader legislation

by the House already but then rejected by the Senate. House Republicans are aware that they have already implicitly voted for an increase in the debt ceiling through their own legislation that failed in the Senate, and are increasingly nervous about roiling the markets, but remaining insistent on bending the arc of federal spending without revenue increases.

For the White House, the Reid proposal represents a Hail Mary pass that is meant to, at the very least, avoid putting the country through a repeat of the debt ceiling negotiations next year, an election year. Administration officials said that if a bipartisan majority in the Senate accepts the Reid proposal, they believe that would force Boehner's hand when the bill went back to the House.

Even if Boehner loses Tea Party members and other conservative Republicans, the administration's hope is that enough House Democrats would vote for the Senate plan that it would offset the loss of conservative Republican votes. □

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FBI inquiry of Murdoch's empire: reliance on Brits

PETE YOST,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI is just cranking up a preliminary review of whether alleged phone hacking and bribery by Rupert Murdoch's media empire violated U.S. laws, but any resolution may well have to await the outcome of British investigations.

The FBI's early fact-gathering could turn into a long saga that tests or reinforces the long-standing cooperation between U.S. and British law enforcement. Most of the records and witnesses to prove or disprove the allegations are in the hands of British investigators. The problem for Murdoch is that his business, not just his now-shuttered British tabloid News of the World, faces investigations on two continents. That includes a nascent FBI probe. Depending upon what turns up, it could head in unexpected directions, perhaps threatening other Murdoch properties, which include the Fox television network. News Corp., Murdoch's New York-headquartered parent company, is assembling a gold-plated roster of lawyers to deal with any U.S. legal action. According to published reports, the company has signed up Brendan Sullivan, the high-priced Washington

criminal defense attorney, and Mark Mendelsohn, an acknowledged expert on the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

Sullivan is famous for defending Oliver North against Iran-Contra scandal charges and Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens against corruption counts. Mendelsohn ran the Justice Department unit that enforced the anti-foreign-bribery statute from 2005 to 2010. News Corp., Sullivan and Mendelsohn would not confirm the hirings. For now, U.S. investigators are not only looking at the phone hacking and bribery allegations but also checking into any other allegations against Murdoch entities that appear in print or even old court records. That includes reviewing old allegations from a civil lawsuit that a unit of News Corp. hacked into computers of a small advertising competitor in New Jersey and obtained confidential information it used to lure away clients.

Separately, the FBI plans to question actor Jude Law about allegations his phone was hacked while he was in the U.S., according to the BBC. Law has sued the Murdoch-owned Sun tabloid for allegedly hacking into Law's voice-mail for stories about his private life. □

Accuser in Strauss-Kahn's NYC sex case speaks out



In this photo provided by ABC News, Robin Roberts, right, talks to Nafissatou Diallo, the alleged victim in the Dominique Strauss-Kahn assault case. Diallo told the network she never wanted to be in the public eye but had no choice, amid questions about her credibility. Lawyers for Strauss-Kahn told ABC that the interview was "an unseemly circus" designed to inflame public opinion.

(AP Photo/ABC News, Heidi Gutman)

NEW YORK (AP) — The hotel maid accusing Dominique Strauss-Kahn of sexually assaulting her in a Manhattan hotel room shattered her silence Sunday, saying in a published report that the former International Monetary Fund leader grabbed and attacked her as she implored him to stop. "I said, 'Sir, stop this. I don't want to lose my job.' He said, 'You're not going to lose your job,'" Nafissatou Diallo told Newsweek in a cover story posted online Sunday. ABC News said it

will broadcast an interview with her on three of its programs Monday. "I push him. I get up. I wanted to scare him. I said, 'Look, there is my supervisor right there,'" she told Newsweek. But Strauss-Kahn said no one was there to hear, she said, and he went on to yank up her uniform dress, tear down her pantyhose, forcefully grab her crotch and then grip her head and force her to perform oral sex. Strauss-Kahn denies the attempted rape and other charges, and his lawyers called the interviews "an unseemly circus" designed to inflame public opinion. □

Man shoots wife, family at roller rink

ANGELA K. BROWN
Associated Press

GRAND PRAIRIE, Texas (AP)

— A gunman shouted at the children to leave his son's birthday party at a Texas roller rink before fatally shooting his estranged wife and four of her relatives and then killing himself as others panicked and some fled screaming in their skates, police and witnesses say. Police said the couple had been having ongoing marital problems that investigators believe led to the shootings about 7 p.m. Saturday at Forum Roller World in Grand Prairie, about 20 miles (30 kilometers) west of Dallas. No young children or rink employees were killed. Some

people at nearby businesses said they watched as adults and children spilled from the rink in horror.

"They just looked terrified," Cody Poston, a witness, told WFAA-TV, outside the rink that was festooned with birthday decorations. "There's several people crying. The kids were just

kind of oblivious."

Grand Prairie detective John Brimmer identified the gunman as Tan Do, 35, of Grand Prairie, and said the party was for his 11-year-old son. Do ordered the children to leave the party, and then after they ran and hid, he opened fire, Brimmer said. □

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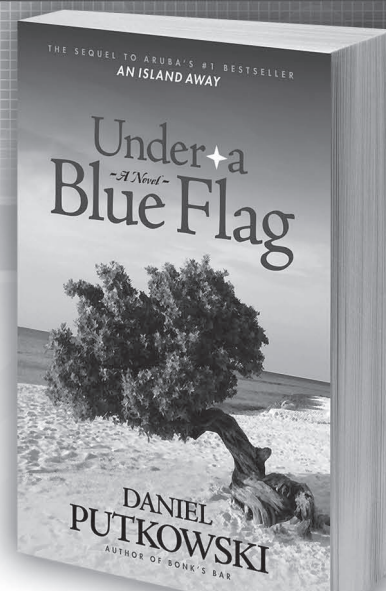


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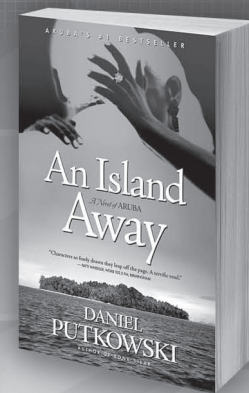
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In Arizona, you can buy marijuana, but not sell it

MARC LACEY

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PHOENIX — Marijuana is known to cause red eyes, gales of laughter and the munchies. In Arizona, add another side effect: utter confusion.

Voters narrowly approved a ballot initiative in November allowing medical marijuana in the state, but the result has been just the opposite of an orderly system of dispensing cannabis to the truly sick. Rather, police raids, surreptitious money transfers and unofficial pot clubs have followed passage of the law, creating a chaotic situation not far removed from the black-market system that has always existed.

"There's confusion," said Ross Taylor, who owns Can-

naPatient, a newly formed company that helps patients get the medical certification required to receive state-issued medical marijuana cards. "There are a

lot of unsure people, and not just because of what happened to me."

Police raided Taylor's home in June, one of several instances in which authorities



Mike Miller, top right, helps a member at 2811 Club, a cannabis club named for the provision of a law allowing state-approved marijuana patients to share marijuana among themselves, in Phoenix, July 21, 2011. Arizona voters narrowly approved a ballot initiative last November allowing medical marijuana in the state, but the result have been confusing not only for patients but lawmakers as well.

(Joshua Lott/The New York Times)

have showed signs of resisting implementation of the law, which took effect at the start of the year.

Gov. Jan Brewer — who campaigned against the law, then signed it with reluctance — said in May that the state, which has issued more than 7,500 cards to medical marijuana patients, would delay issuing licenses to marijuana dispensaries, as the law requires. Instead, she filed suit in federal court seeking a ruling on whether the state's medical marijuana law conflicted with federal prohibitions on marijuana. So the patients have their cards permitting them to buy marijuana in Arizona, but no official place to do so.

Arizona is not just another state when it comes to marijuana. More Mexican-grown marijuana enters this

state than any other, according to federal government data. On June 8, the authorities recovered more than 1,200 pounds from an SUV that led them on a 20-mile chase through dirt roads near the border.

The police operation that took place the next day in Gilbert, a community outside Phoenix, netted a considerably smaller haul: about 2 ounces. In that case, the police executed a search warrant on Taylor's house after getting a tip from the cable man. The officers, Taylor said, did not appear interested in his medical marijuana card, which permits him to grow up to a dozen marijuana plants in his home or obtain up to 2.5 ounces from a caregiver or a dispensary. Police said they were pursuing those taking advantage of the new law. □

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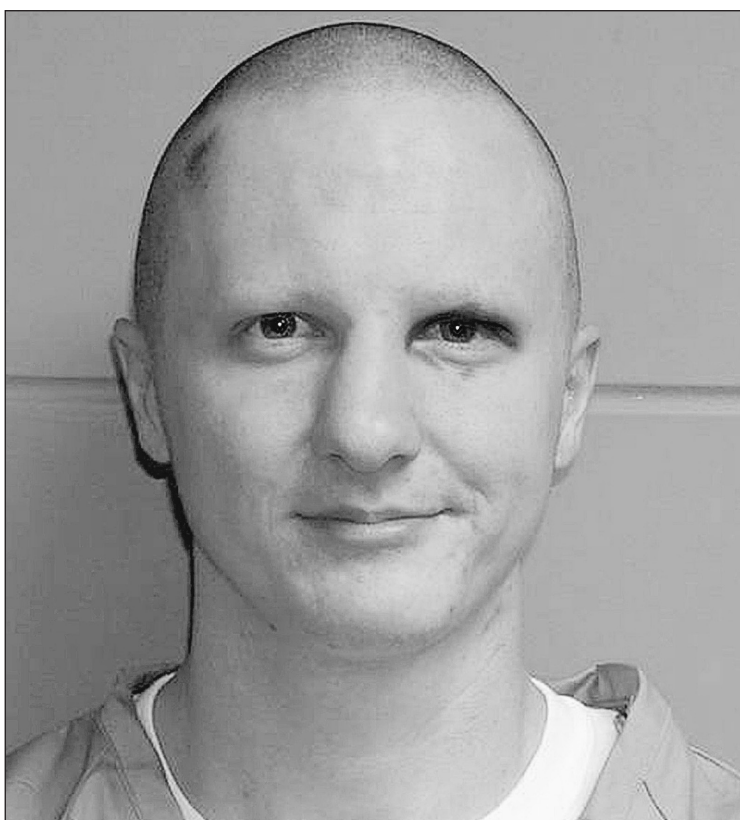
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Documents:

Loughner crying, pacing in prison cell

WALTER BERRY
 Associated Press
 PHOENIX (AP) — Tucson shooting rampage suspect Jared Lee Loughner was put on a 24-hour suicide watch this month at a federal prison in Missouri after he asked a staff psychologist to kill him, federal prosecutors said in newly released court documents. A 24-page filing by the U.S. Attorney's Office in Tucson also said prison staff report that Loughner has been pacing in circles near his cell door, screaming loudly, crying for hours at a time and claiming to hear messages from a radio. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on Friday night denied an emergency motion by defense lawyers to keep prison officials from forcibly medicating Loughner with a psychotropic drug. Calls to lead Loughner attorney Judy Clarke weren't immediately returned Saturday. Loughner, 22, has pleaded not guilty to 49 charges in the Jan. 8 shooting that killed six people and



This photo released Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2011, by the U.S. Marshal's Service shows Jared Loughner. Prison officials have resumed forcibly medicating the man accused of wounding U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords in a deadly shooting rampage in Tucson, lawyers for the suspect said Thursday, July 21, 2011.
 (AP Photo/U.S. Marshal's Office, File)

wounded 13 others, including U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. He's been at a federal prison facility in Springfield, Missouri, since May 27 after a federal judge concluded he was mentally unfit to help in his legal defense. Mental health experts have determined Loughner suffers from schizophrenia and are trying to make him psychologically fit to stand trial. Federal prosecutors claim Loughner should remain medicated because he may be a danger to himself and his mental and physical condition was rapidly deteriorating. Loughner was forcibly medicated between June 21 and July 1 after prison officials determined his outbursts there posed a danger to others. He was given twice daily doses of Risperidone, a drug used for people with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and severe behavior problems. Prison officials stopped doing that on July 2 after the 9th Circuit granted his lawyers' request for a temporary stay of involuntary medication. While being examined on July 8, Loughner said he was depressed, felt hopeless and "reported that the radio was talking to him and inserting thoughts into his mind," a staff psychologist said in the prosecutors' new filing. Loughner was then put on suicide watch and prison

staff said he displayed "bizarre" and "hyper sexed behavior" from July 8-12 along with an "inability to cope with grief, stress and severe anxiety." A psychologist said Loughner told her on July 13 that "I want to die. Give me the injection, kill me now" and then sobbed uncontrollably for 55 minutes. From July 14-18, prison staff reported Loughner pacing for hours in his cell, appearing confused and disoriented, barely eating his meals and surviving on minimal sleep. Records show the prison's medical and psychology staff feared Loughner's condition could worsen without immediate care and resumed medicating him on Tuesday. Loughner's attorneys argued that his due-process rights were being violated and filed an emergency motion Thursday with the 9th Circuit, asking that the forced medication be stopped until his appeal is resolved. If Loughner is later determined to be competent enough for trial, the court proceedings will resume. If he isn't deemed competent at the end of his four-month treatment, Loughner's stay at the facility can be extended. Loughner's lawyers haven't said whether they intend to present an insanity defense, but they have noted in court filings that his mental condition will likely be a central issue at trial.

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Same-sex couples finally marry legally in New York

**THOMAS KAPLAN
MICHAEL BARBARO**
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Reporting was contributed by Sam Dolnick, William Glaberson, Danny Hakim and Javier C. Hernandez. From New York City to Niagara Falls, N.Y., hundreds of gay and lesbian couples across the state began marrying on Sunday – the first taking their vows just after midnight – in the culmination of a long battle in the Legislature and a new milestone for gay rights advocates seeking to legalize same-sex marriage across the nation. Outside the city clerk's office in Lower Manhattan, an orderly crowd had gathered in sweltering temperatures alongside metal police barriers hours before the doors opened around

the chapel. Kopelov used a gray walker anchored by two tennis balls as they were married by the city clerk, Michael McSweeney.

As McSweeney declared to the couple, "I now pronounce you married," Siegel tenderly held Kopelov's head and kissed her on the left cheek. "I am breathless," said Siegel.

The first male couple, Marcos A. Chaljub, 29, and Freddy L. Zambrano, 30, both of Queens, wore matching white shirts, green ties and black and white boat shoes – even their beards matched. After the newly married couple kissed for a sustained 12 seconds, a friend tossed rice grains out of a Ziploc bag and a small audience in the chapel erupted into

new law. But there were no reports of major disturbances.

By late morning, hundreds of people were still waiting in line outside the of-

fice in Manhattan. Those who emerged after being married were greeted with cheers from passers-by, a cadre of journalists seeking interviews and even the congratulations of police officers assigned to keep order.

The City Council speaker, Christine C. Quinn, who is openly gay, witnessed the first marriages in Manhattan. "To hear a judge say, 'By the laws of our state' – It sent a chill up my spine," Quinn said.

Outside the five boroughs, more than a dozen other cities and towns from Buffalo to Brookhaven opened their offices to issue licenses, and over 100 judges across the state have volunteered to officiate. □



Lino Caminha-Strandquist, left, and Luke Strandquist-Caminha hug after exchanging vows at Manhattan's City Clerk's office on the first day of same-sex marriage in New York, July 24, 2011. Hundreds of gay and lesbian couples across New York State began marrying on Sunday in the culmination of a long battle in the Legislature and a new milestone for gay rights advocates seeking to legalize same-sex marriage across the nation.

(Michael Appleton/The New York Times)



Margie Phelps of the Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas protests against gay marriage outside the clerk's office in New York on July 24, 2011.

(Fred R. Conrad/The New York Times)

8:45 a.m., prompting a cheer. At least one veil was in evidence.

Phyllis Siegel, 76, and Connie Kopelov, 84, who have been together in Manhattan for 23 years, were the first couple in, receiving a waiver from the rule requiring 24 hours between a license and a ceremony. They were ushered right into

loud applause.

In New York City, 823 couples had signed up in advance to get marriage licenses on Sunday. Marriage offices in each borough were open, with some drawing more than others. In some places, small groups of protesters with signs were on hand, as well, denouncing the



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Norway suspect admits 'facts' of massacre, but not guilt

Continued from front Page

"We are not sure whether he was alone or had help," a police official, Roger Andresen, said Saturday. "What we know is that he is right wing and a Christian fundamentalist."

Armed officers raided a location in eastern Oslo on Sunday and briefly detained several people before releasing them. Nothing had been found linking them to terrorism, the police said.

On Sunday, muted and shaken by the magnitude of the killings, many people gathered at the Lutheran cathedral here in Oslo to mourn. King Harald V and Queen Sonja, both dabbing tears, joined Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg and other dignitaries for a service inside.

"We are crying with you; we feel for you," Stoltenberg said. The two days since the killings "feels like an eternity - hours and days and nights filled with shock and angst and weeping," he said.

"Each and every one of those who has left us is a tragedy," he added. "Together, it is a national tragedy." A minister told mourners packed into the pews under the cathedral's chandeliered ceiling that "hate cannot triumph over love." Hundreds of others gathered on a rain-swept plaza outside, where they left carpets of flowers and candles. "That is why we are holding one another today," the minister said. Tured Mong, a pensioner, said she had driven 40



This is an image obtained from the Twitter page of Anders Behring Breivik, 32, who was arrested Friday July 22, 2011 in connection to the twin attacks on a youth camp and a government building in Oslo, Norway. Breivik is a suspect in both the shootings and the Oslo explosion Friday.

(AP Photo/Twitter)

miles with her husband to bring flowers from her garden and a candle she

wanted to light. "I only want to lay them down here," Mong said outside

the cathedral. "I am sorry for all the parents waiting to find some news who don't know about their children."

Evy Andersen, from Oslo, brought a sunflower from her garden.

"I have a niece who has been to this camp twice, and she has many friends who are missing. She is wondering about them. I did this for her and for myself."

News reports spoke of immigrants arriving at the cathedral before the service to show respect for the dead. Lemeo Le, a refugee from Vietnam 21 years ago, said: "Norway helped the Vietnamese people to come here. They were very welcoming. I have a job and a family, and I wanted to come. It is very sad for all the young people." Borge Wilhemsen, a Labor Party activist, said he drove for five hours to be at the memorial service and brought his 6-year-old daughter. "You can't take them away from everything," he said, referring to his daughter. "They have to learn that life is sometimes hard."

Excerpts of Norway gunman's manifesto

Arrested gunman Anders Behring Breivik worked 9 years on a "manifesto" that blamed multi-culturalists, Marxists and Muslims for Europe's problems and urged violent means to purge Europe of non-Christians and those he deemed traitors to Christian Europe.

His lawyer says he posted it online just before a rampage that killed nearly 100 people.

Here are several brief excerpts that illustrate the nature of his writing and his obsessions as he carried out one of the worst crimes in Europe since World War II.

"I have spent several years writing, researching and compiling the information and I have spent most of my hard earned funds in this process (in excess of 300 000 Euros). I do not

want any compensation for it as it is a gift to you, as a fellow patriot."

"Multi-culturalism (cultural Marxism/political correctness), as you might know, is the root cause of the ongoing Islamisation of Europe which has resulted in the ongoing Islamic colonization of Europe through demographic warfare (facilitated by our own leaders)."

"In order to successfully penetrate the cultural Marxist/multiculturalist media censorship we are forced to employ significantly more brutal and breath taking operations which will result in casualties."

"In order for the attack to gain an influential effect, assassinations and the use of weapons of mass destruction must be em-

braced."

"The ideology that has taken over Western Europe goes most commonly by the name of 'Political Correctness.' Some people see it as a joke. It is not. It is deadly serious. It seeks to alter virtually all the rules, formal and informal, that govern relations among people and institutions. It wants to change behaviour, thought, even the words we use."

"I have never in my life felt that I have done anything more meaningful than what I am doing now regardless of the lack of moral support from my founding brothers or other armed resistance fighters."

"I believe this will be my last entry. It is now Fri July 22nd, 12.51." □

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Venezuela's President **Hug Chavez** waves to supporters during an event to celebrate the 228th birth anniversary of Venezuela's Independence hero **Simon Bolivar** in Caracas, Venezuela, Sunday, July 24, 2011.

(AP Photo)

Chavez is optimistic, upbeat after chemo

JORGE RUEDA
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez sang and recited a poem in honor of independence hero Simon Bolivar on Sunday, appearing upbeat and energetic after his first week of chemotherapy in Cuba.

Chavez said in a televised speech that he is optimistic he will survive cancer, but added that risks remain and that he is under strict orders from his doctors to limit his agenda. After returning to Caracas on Saturday night, Chavez said thorough tests have found no signs that any cancer cells have reappeared. Chavez spoke at the childhood home of Bolivar on the anniversary of his birth, praising the legacy of the founding father after whom the president has named his socialist-inspired Bolivarian Revolution movement. Chavez declared: "Long live Simon Bolivar, now and forever!" Chavez also recited a poem about Bolivar by Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, and sang outside the house with a folk music group. □

North Korean envoy invited to U.S. for nuclear talks

CHOE SANG-HUN

© 2011 New York Times

SEOUL, South Korea — A senior North Korean diplomat believed to be an important strategist in his government's nuclear negotiations with the United States will visit New York this week to discuss restarting talks seeking to end the North's nuclear weapons program, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Sunday.

Clinton said in a statement that the United States had invited the diplomat, Kim Kye Gwan, the first vice foreign minister, for "an exploratory meeting to determine if North Korea was prepared to affirm its obligations under" previous international agreements on nuclear disarmament and "take concrete and irreversible steps toward denuclearization."

In November, the North revealed an industrial-scale plant for enriching uranium that showed it was gaining a new means to make nuclear bombs in addition to its existing plutonium program.

The six-nation talks aimed at ending the program collapsed in 2008 in a dispute over how transparent North Korea's nuclear programs should be. Since then, the North has escalated tensions on the Korean peninsula by the launching of a long-range rocket, a nuclear test and the military provocation of the South.

The timing of Washington's invitation to Kim and his expected talks



US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton walks alongside **US Consul General to Hong Kong and Macau Stephen Young** on her arrival in Hong Kong on Sunday July 24, 2011. The United States said that it has invited a top North Korean envoy to New York for "exploratory talks" on the possible resumption of the six-party negotiations on denuclearisation. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said the North's vice foreign minister and former nuclear negotiator, Kim Kye-Gwan, would visit the US "later this week" for the talks -- the first such contacts for almost two years.



(AP Photo/Saul Loeb, pool)

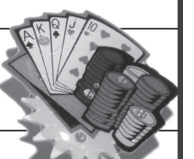
with U.S. officials provide another sign that the countries involved in the talks — which also included China, Russia and Japan — were serious about restarting the negotiations.

As the United States and South Korea cautiously move forward, one concern is how to ensure that renewed discussions with the North will not turn into what officials in Seoul term as "talk for talk's sake."

Years of on-and-off talks that have been marked by recriminations and broken promises and have left officials in Seoul unsure whether North Korea is willing to give up its nuclear weapons programs in return for economic and diplomatic rewards, or whether it was simply using the talks to win economic aid.

"We are open to talks with North Korea, but we do not intend to reward the North just for returning to the table," Clinton said. □

			
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Saturday Sunday	Buyin \$25 For 1000 chips	Rebuys \$26 3max. p.p. For 1200 chips.	Add-on \$32 1p.p. For 4000 chips
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Writer frees herself by speaking out against Strauss-Kahn

MAIA DE LA BAUME

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PARIS – To some, she is a frail, tormented young woman who was preyed upon by an influential politician and well-known womanizer. To others, she is a publicity-seeking fantasist. To still others, she is a skillful manipulator who helped foment a plot against the Socialist Party.

Whether fairly or not, Tristane Banon, the 32-year-old writer who contends that Dominique Strauss-Kahn tried to rape her in 2003, has become one of France's most polarizing figures, even to some of her colleagues and friends. She was widely criticized this month when she filed a lawsuit against Strauss-Kahn accusing him of attempted rape, eight years after she says he attacked her and four days after he was freed from house arrest in New York on charges of trying to rape a hotel maid. His lawyers immediately filed a countercomplaint here for slander, insisting that Banon's charges were imaginary. For Banon herself, the complaint brought an end to years of indecision and turmoil.

"It's liberation," she said a phone interview. "It's the most liberating and violent thing I've ever done in my life."

Banon, who is often shown in magazines here looking like a pale, skinny adolescent and wearing ripped jeans, sounded mature, self-confident and determined. If French prosecutors decide there is not

enough evidence to bring her case against Strauss-Kahn, she said, "I'll have to live with this, but I'll live badly."

In early 2003, she was a 23-year-old journalist, working as an intern for the magazine Paris Match when she interviewed Strauss-Kahn, a

pened – how Strauss-Kahn, who arranged to meet her in a sparsely furnished apartment, had tried to rape her, undoing her bra and jeans and putting his hand in her underwear. But for eight years, advised by her mother and her friends to keep silent, Ba-

self-confidence, affected her relationships with men and hurt her chances to find work in journalism.

"I never understood why some people destroyed my career, my life, insulted me while I was the victim," she said.

In 2006, she married a restaurant owner whose father was a cattle breeder in Normandy, but the marriage ended.

The Strauss-Kahn episode continued to trouble her, and even before he was arrested in New York, she hired a media-savvy lawyer, David Koubbi, who has handled cases for well-known personalities. Banon insists that she and Koubbi have proof to back up her accusation of attempted rape, but she said she could not provide details because the case is continuing.

Manhattan prosecutors will likely place a request with French authorities to interview Banon, a person briefed on the investigation said.

After the episode, she said she immediately informed a close friend as well as her mother, Anne Mansouret. Four years later, in the odd setting of an entertainment show, she spoke about it on television, though Strauss-Kahn's name was removed; then a year later, she revealed his name. She also fictionalized the event in a novel, "Trapeziste." But in the absence of a legal complaint, few journalists pursued her accusations.

Banon grew up in Paris' 8th Arrondissement, near the

Champs-Elysees. But she had to cope with solitude and misfortune at an early age. "I've never had a family structure," she said. "I'm not an unbalanced person, but I was more fragile than others."

Her father, Gabriel Banon, a Franco-Moroccan businessman and former financial adviser to Yasser Arafat, the late founder of the Palestine Liberation Organization, was married to a woman not her mother. He recognized his paternity of Banon but disappeared soon after she was born.

Banon has called her mother "my adored lie" and described her as "a beautiful manipulator," who never left her house uncoiffed and came home with many different men. In a 2008 interview on France 3 television, Mansouret admitted, in front of her daughter, that she never loved children. "I've never managed to express affection," she said. "My daughter and I are more friends than family." More recently, Mansouret told police officers that she had had a consensual, though "brutal," sexual encounter with Strauss-Kahn in 2000, French news media reported. The statements emerged after the police questioned Mansouret as part of the investigation into her daughter's accusations. Banon told the newspaper Le Figaro that she had known nothing about the encounter, but that it made Strauss-Kahn appear even more "unbearable" to her.



Tristane Banon, the 32-year-old writer who contends that Dominique Strauss-Kahn tried to rape her in 2003, has become one of France's most polarizing figures. This photo is a part of a series of portraits of Banon taken in Paris on July 22, 2011.

(Ed Alcock/The New York Times)

leading Socialist, for a book she was researching about the mistakes of powerful people.

In various settings since 2007, and most recently in the French weekly magazine L'Express, she has described what she says hap-

pened – how Strauss-Kahn, who arranged to meet her in a sparsely furnished apartment, had tried to rape her, undoing her bra and jeans and putting his hand in her underwear. But for eight years, advised by her mother and her friends to keep silent, Ba-

non said she did not find the courage to bring a criminal complaint against Strauss-Kahn, whose second wife was her godmother. "I was too young and fearful at the time," she said.

Continued on Page 27

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Phone scandal brings up CNN host's past at British tabloid

DON VAN NATTA Jr.
RAVI SOMAIYA

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LONDON — It was perhaps inevitable that the phone hacking accusations in Britain would cross the Atlantic and reach Piers Morgan, the flamboyant former Fleet Street editor who is now the host of "Piers Morgan Tonight" on CNN.

James Hipwell, a former journalist at The Daily Mirror, a tabloid edited by Morgan until 2004, now says that phone hacking was "endemic" at the paper.

"Piers was extremely hands-on as an editor," Hipwell, 45, told the British newspaper The Independent in an interview published Saturday. "I can't say 100 percent that he knew about it. But it was inconceivable he didn't."

In an email interview, Morgan struck back at that allegation and other suggestions by members of Parliament and a widely read political blog that his reporters had landed scoops at The Daily Mirror based on phone hacking. Members of Parliament have also said that Morgan should be questioned.

"I have never hacked a phone, told anyone to hack a phone, nor to my knowledge published any story obtained from the hacking of a phone," Morgan said. "I am not aware, and have never seen evidence to suggest otherwise, that any Mirror story published during my tenure

was obtained from phone hacking."

Morgan challenged Hipwell's credibility, saying he was a convicted felon who went to jail in 2006 for 59 days for buying stock in companies before touting them in a Daily Mirror column, then selling the shares when the prices rose. Morgan himself was accused

said. "He is not a credible witness." Hipwell did not return messages Saturday. A spokesman for Trinity Mirror, the publisher of The Daily Mirror, denied Hipwell's allegations.

Asked if CNN had pressed him for assurances that he was not involved in phone hacking, Morgan replied, "My unequivocal state-



Rebekah Brooks, left, watched by magazine editor Ben Preston, and Piers Morgan, talks with Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, during a reception for the media at Windsor Castle, England. It was perhaps inevitable that the phone hacking accusations in Britain would cross the Atlantic and reach Piers Morgan, the flamboyant former Fleet Street editor who is now the host of "Piers Morgan Tonight" on CNN. James Hipwell, a former journalist at The Daily Mirror, a tabloid edited by Morgan until 2004, now says that phone hacking was "endemic" at the paper.

(AP Photo/Fiona Hanson)

of profiting from the sale of one company's stock based on the column but said he "was cleared by both internal inquiry and external legal investigation."

Hipwell "lied repeatedly during the various investigations into the scandal — both about me and about other colleagues," Morgan

ments on this matter speak for themselves."

A CNN spokeswoman said Saturday that Morgan had been asked about the accusations and "denied involvement in phone hacking both publicly and privately."

In 2007, Morgan was quoted in GQ magazine as saying that former News of the

World reporter Clive Goodman, who went to jail for hacking phones of members of the royal household, had been made "a scapegoat for a widespread practice." (News of the World is the newspaper that has been at the heart of the hacking scandal.) Morgan said Saturday that he had heard rumors about phone hacking in tabloid newsrooms for years, and "it would now appear those rumors were correct."

Hipwell's accusations are the latest in a series of charges against Morgan; the newspaper he edited, The Daily Mirror; and its sister tabloids The People and The Sunday Mirror.

This month, Adrian Sanders, a member of Parliament, accused Morgan's old newspaper of obtaining a 2002 scoop — that the former England soccer manager Sven-Goran Eriksson had had an affair with a television personality, Ulrika Jonsson — by means of phone hacking. British lawmakers are protected from libel lawsuits while speaking in Parliament.

On Tuesday, during the questioning of James and Rupert Murdoch as part of the parliamentary committee, Louise Mensch, a Conservative member of Parliament, used the same protection to wonder aloud why lawmakers had not questioned Morgan. She then suggested — incorrectly, as it turned out — that

Morgan had admitted in a book he wrote that phone hacking had produced big scoops for The Daily Mirror. She appeared to conflate a passage from his book with several posts by the widely read British political blogger Guido Fawkes.

Later that day on CNN, an audibly angry Morgan confronted Mensch to deny the accusations. Mensch, he said, was "a coward" for refusing to repeat her claims outside of Parliament, where she would not be covered by the immunity protections. He challenged her to "repeat what you said about it and then maybe go and buy a copy of my book."

In the email interview, Morgan said he intended to write a letter to John Whittingdale, the Conservative chairman of Parliament's culture, media and sport select committee, to demand a correction and apology from Mensch.

"Ms. Mensch accused me of personal criminal activity," Morgan said, "and I never broke the law as an editor."

Mensch did not respond to a message seeking comment.

Morgan said he was gratified to see that Tom Watson, the Labour lawmaker who led the parliamentary questioning of the Murdochs on Tuesday, had said Saturday on Twitter: "I've not seen any evidence linking (AT)PiersMorgan to hacking. □"

In Israel, rich and famous flock to "Wonder Rabbi"

MATTI FRIEDMAN

Associated Press

ASHDOD, Israel (AP) — A few evenings every month, some of Israel's wealthiest and most powerful people can be found in a living room in this seaside city, waiting to have a few minutes with a rabbi they see as an advisor, guru or miracle worker.

Yoshiyahu Pinto is slightly stooped, his long beard and hair unkempt. He looks older than his 38 years, and speaks so softly you have to lean in to hear him. His remarkable rise in recent years has turned this living room of floral-patterned chairs and gilt sofas into an intersection of influence extending to Israel's parliament, where a former defense minister believes the rabbi helped him emerge from a coma, and to high finance, where a real estate broker says Pinto steered him away from a bad deal that would have lost him millions.

People come seeking the rabbi's blessing or his counsel on their business deals and personal lives. Pinto has no business training and did not study at university. But he has "wisdom that is unlimited," said Israeli businessman Ilan Ben-Dov, the majority shareholder in the cell phone company Partner, who has been consulting the rabbi regularly for five years.

"He has not only his own life experience, but that of all of the generations that went before him," Ben-Dov said. "Any attempt to describe him falls short of the reality."

The veneration of rabbis said to have miracle powers has a long history in Judaism, existing uncomfortably alongside a deeply



A man kisses the hand of Rabbi Yoshiyahu Pinto, center, as he attends a ceremony in Lod, central Israel. People, including some of Israel's wealthiest and most powerful, come seeking Pinto's blessing or his counsel on their business deals and personal lives. The veneration and consulting of miracle rabbis has a long history in Judaism, existing uncomfortably alongside a deeply rooted rationalist tradition.

(AP Photo/Oded Balilty)

rooted rationalist tradition. In Israel, the phenomenon used to be identified mainly with poor Jews of Middle Eastern origin. But in recent years, it has spread to the country's secular elite, bringing into the limelight a number of rabbis who have an aura of otherworldliness as well as PR operations sophisticated enough to make sure their otherworldliness is well known.

Pinto's star currently shines the brightest.

On a recent Thursday night — one of the several times a month Pinto sees visitors here — an Associated Press reporter waiting for several hours for an audience was joined by millionaire businessmen, professional soccer players, a few seemingly ordinary people, and one of Israel's most famous singers, a pop diva who goes by the name of Rita.

People who do not wait in line for anything wait in line for Pinto. Leaning against a wall, near the door to the

rabbi's office, was Jacky Ben-Zaken, the real-estate tycoon who told a reporter last year about Pinto's last-minute advice to abandon his planned purchase of a company. Tzipi Livni, the opposition leader, had been here two weeks before. Billionaire Nochi

Dankner, who owns Israel's largest holding company and a daily newspaper, is a regular.

Pinto is a scion of two rabbinical dynasties. On his mother's side he is a great-grandson of a famous Moroccan-born mystic known as the Baba Sali. Pinto be-



Rabbi Yoshiyahu Pinto, center, attends a wedding in central Israel. Some of Israel's wealthiest and most powerful seek Pinto's blessing or counsel on their business deals and personal lives.

(AP Photo/Oded Balilty)

gan amassing followers as a young man in the Mediterranean port city of Ashdod, helped by his family heritage and reputation for uncanny insight into human behavior. Some of those followers saw him simply as an unusually wise man. Others believed his wisdom was supernatural, that his blessings had power and that he could see the future and heal the sick.

His fame slowly extended into the upper reaches of Israeli society, with the help of savvy assistants who cultivate celebrities and reporters.

The rabbi has a ministry, Shuva Israel, that funds Torah and charitable work and owns the rabbi's house in Ashdod. It also has property in midtown Manhattan, where Pinto, apparently unhindered by the fact that he speaks no English, has developed a large following and where he now spends most of his time.

The rise of wonder-rabbis among the wealthy and influential here is linked to a more general rise in religious sentiment in Israel and to New Age trends, said psychologist and sociologist Yoram Bilu of Hebrew University in Jerusalem. A visit and donation to the rabbi offers an experience Bilu termed "instant redemption," with none of the intellectual or practical demands of the actual religion. Bilu ties it to the uncertainties of Israeli life: "Israeli businessmen operate in a very stressful, unpredictable environment, and the whole society is in a permanent state of emergency."

Pinto stands out in part because he is more accessible to Israelis turned off by organized Judaism, said Shalom Yerushalmi, a veteran political analyst for the daily Maariv who considers himself one of the rabbi's followers. Unlike most ultra-Orthodox rabbis, Pinto does not press his secular adherents to observe Jewish law and rejects the mixing of religion and government, he said. Pinto has also spoken out to condemn racism against Arabs. □

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LOCAL Aruba TODAY

With Environment Expo Display

Panos Caribbean kicks off year-long 25th Anniversary Celebration

Panos Caribbean kicked off its 25th anniversary celebrations in last month by showcasing the organisation's work in environment at the annual Green Expo which was held at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel in Kingston, Jamaica.

The Green Expo is an environment exposition organized by the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCdT). The expo is usually held during the national environment awareness week, which this year started on World Environment Day, June 5th. "We decided to take a thematic approach to highlight the work we are doing. So since environment is our biggest area right now we decided to start there," explained Jan Voordouw, Executive Director of Panos while adding that Panos' Environment Programme started in 2005.

At the same time, Regional Director for Media, Community & Environment at Panos Caribbean, Indi McIymont-Lafayette explained why the Green expo was the ideal place to showcase Panos' work to raise environment awareness including using innovative and creative ways to spread the crucial climate change message: "This was our second time participating in Green expo and we felt that it would give us immediate access to share our work with thousands of people," said McIymont-Lafayette. "We had a constant flow of persons over that weekend.

Continued on Page 15

World-Class Lineup Announced

5th Annual Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival coming up

ORANJESTAD - The fifth Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival will take place on October 7 and 8 with a pre-heating warm-up preceding the festival. Held at Cas di Cultura, as is customary, the event has grown to full adulthood through the years. This means that world-class performers can be attracted to the event and thus the 2011 edition will be filled with the names of enormously talented artists. Names like Angie Stone, Eddie Palmieri, Candy Dulfer, Richard Bona and Raul Midon will be the festival's headliners without contest, but Cosy Cotton



dal Corsen, Ronchi Matthew, Yuri Honing, Will Bernard, The Ploctones, Moon Baker, Red Fulka, Lao Tizer, Swing Design, Paoli Mejias, Cubop City Big Band and Cosy Cotton Bluse Band made the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival a truly international even of the highest caliber. Local Aruban artists and groups performing at the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival were Delbert Bernabela, Robert Jean-dor, Johnny Scharbaai, Ivan Jansen, Ricardo Garcia, Antonio Bello, young Serghio Jansen, JEMM, Sonic Lab, Soul Cowboy, Gloria Vega, Sazon Cubano,



with singer Grana Louise is sure to attract a wide audience as well. Cosy Cotton is performing on Aruba for the fourth year now and, we can tell you, it makes the hearts of local and visiting blues fans beat faster! But the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival would not be complete without the considerable talent of local bands, like the Muziekschool Band and many more. All will get a spot in the spotlight on one of the stages at the Plaza di Cultura and will surely impress. This October weekend will also include

art of all kinds: paintings, installations, drawings, poetry, theater and mime. To make the festival complete, there will be a terrific food court.

As the organizers, The Purple Entertainment Group, are dotting the i's and crossing the t's to get everything shipshape and ready for two days of an explosion of excellent music, the excitement is building within Aruba's jazz and music fans. They are greatly looking forward to the Caribbean Jazz Festival 2011. It promises to be super fan-



tastic once again.

The concept of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival was inspired by the world-class North Sea Jazz Festival created by Paul Ackett, taking place in the Netherlands in the summer. The annual Aruba Jazz & Latin Music festival which took place from 1986 till 2001 can be viewed as a predecessor of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival. Famous featured performers such as Michel Camilo, Marcus Miller, Isaac Delgado, David Sanborn, Anacaona, Izaline Calister, Praful, Ran-

Datapanic, Timbache and Mystical Connection.

The four editions of the festival have been wonderful opportunities for artists to showcase their talent, enjoy the performances of their peers, and a treat for audiences to relax on the lawn, chill in the auditorium and sip and nibble in the open-air Lounge while listening to some of the best improvisations on earth.

For more information of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival, please visit: <http://www.caribbeanseajazz.com>. □

Wedding party the LG Smith's style!

Mr. & Mrs. Miele celebrate marriage



ORANJESTAD – After saying their "I do's" during a romantic ceremony on the private Renaissance Island, newlywed Joseph & Dawn Miele accompanied by their friends and family partied the night away during their after wedding celebration at the prestigious LG Smith Steak and Chop-house. Live music, delicious cock-

tails and a great ambiance were the perfect ingredients for a fabulous after wedding celebration the LG Smith's style.

The dedicated staff of LG Smith Steak and Chop-house has provided the couple with the best service which has surely made the couples special day even more special. For Joseph and Dawn, Aru-

ba has been the perfect wedding destination and LG Smith gave them an after wedding party to remember.

"As you begin your life together...may all your days be filled with love and may all your dreams come true!" Congratulations to Joseph & Dawn Miele from LG Smith Steak and Chop-house. □

Aruhiba, The 1 and Only Homemade Aruban Cigar



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is



specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till

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Aruba Rembrandt Regatta coming up in August



PALM BEACH - Get ready for the third annual Aruba Rembrandt Regatta that will take place on August 12 - 14. Three days of action and competition for yachts, beach cats, sunfishes, optimists, windsurfers and kitesurfers; three evenings of music and parties for all participants and spectators.

After two successful editions, the organization of the Aruba Rembrandt Regatta has decided to step up to a next level. With the support of Budget Marine, an overall cup has been installed for the winner in the most competitive class. Line honors of the Around Aruba race will be honored with a barrel of Mount Gay Rum. For the youngest sailors, there will be optimist races, for the more athletically inspired swimming and triathlon competitions will be organized. For those who do not sail, Aruba Beach Tennis will set up 10

beach tennis courts for the Aruba Beach Tennis Ranking Tournament.

The success of last year's event, having over 200 people participating in the different competitions, inspired the organization to make this year's edition even better and bigger. A regatta village will be built on Eagle Beach where Café Rembrandt will ensure entertainment, live music, food and beverage and a spectacular view on the races.

The traditional 'Around Aruba Race' will be sailed on Friday August 12. Yachts that prefer not to race can also join for a fun-rally. Yacht races on Saturday August 13 and Sunday August 14 will constitute a series of 4 races. The results of these races will decide the rankings of the regatta competition.

For sunfish and beach cat participants, a series of five races will be decisive for

the classification.

The competition in the windsurfing and kite surfing classes will be organized according to the weather conditions.

All events and races take place at Eagle Beach, one of the largest and most beautiful beaches of Aruba. The Dutch Marines, boatplatoon CARIB, will

ensure safety and support at the regatta site and on the water, Brickell Bay Hotel in Aruba offers a special regatta-package for participants, volunteers and spectators. Together with the other sponsors: Polar, Power Systems, Now, Pringles and Gillette, this regatta will surely be an event you shouldn't miss!

Most participants are already preparing for the races and a number of international competitors have already confirmed their participation in the races.

You can pre-register for the races via our contact form or call (+)297 5656887. Visit www.aruba-regatta.com for more information. □

Panos Caribbean kicks off year-long 25th Anniversary Celebration

Continued from Page 15

We had our Voices for Climate Change Education artistes doing a mini concert.

We played our anniversary video and spoke of our programme dealing with community empowerment, youth journalism etc."

The Voices for Climate Change Education is the flagship project for Panos Environment Programme. Since it started in late 2008 it has reached an estimated 2.5 million people through

a variety of activities.

Panos and the National Environmental Education Committee (NEEC), which implement the Voices Project, in late 2010 partnered with the Mocho Community Development Association in a project to communicate climate change and biodiversity at the community level.

The Project is funded by the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme and the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica.

"Panos has worked with

Mocho since 2005 when our environment programme started.

Since that time Mocho has established its own community organization which is focusing on the community's development.

The organisation, the Mocho Community Development Association is now implementing its own climate change and biodiversity project with some help from Panos and the NEEC,"

McLymont-Lafayette stated. □

They have arrived:

Comic-Con welcomes 'Cowboys & Aliens'

SANDY COHEN,
AP Entertainment Writer
SAN DIEGO (AP) — "Cowboys & Aliens" premiered to a star-studded and fan-filled crowd at the Comic-Con fan convention. Stars Harrison Ford, Daniel

Craig, Olivia Wilde, Sam Rockwell and Keith Carradine walked a red carpet flanked by fans who won a chance to sit in the adjacent bleachers. Director Jon Favreau and producers Steven Spielberg, Ron How-

ard and Brian Grazer also got cheers as they walked the carpet, bringing a taste of Hollywood to downtown San Diego Saturday night. Favreau said he wanted to unveil his science-fiction Western at Comic-Con to thank conventioners for their support of the films he introduced there in previous years, including his two "Iron Man" movies. He showed early footage from "Cowboys & Aliens" during a Comic-Con panel last year, whetting fans' appetites for the film, and he invited them to be a part of the premiere to "see what that part of the equation is like." "They generally don't get to experience that part of it," he said.

"That's more of a Hollywood thing." Hundreds of fans lined up in front of the San Diego Civic Theatre to attend the premiere after winning tickets by following clues texted to their cell phones.

"This kind of overshadows Comic-Con," said 22-year-old Khalil Tiner of Las Vegas, a six-year veteran of the fan festival. "This is something new, and it's exciting." Wendy Lee of Los Angeles and Chris Saguisag of San Francisco, both 44, said they enjoyed dashing around town trying to win tickets.

"We got a lot of cardio running after the bricks" that contained a chance to attend the premiere, Lee said. □



Television host Olivia Munn arrives at the premiere of the feature film "Cowboys and Aliens" at Comic Con in San Diego, Calif. on Saturday, July 23, 2011.

(AP Photo/Dan Steinberg)



Adam Horowitz speaks during the panel for the show "Once Upon a Time" at Comic-Con International 2011 convention on Saturday, July 23, 2011, in San Diego. The annual comic book and popular arts convention attracts over 100,000 people and ran through Sunday, July 24.

(AP Photo/Gregory Bull)

Delhi Couture Week:

Shakti Kapoor's daughter Shraddha walks for Modi



Bollywood actor Shraddha Kapoor displays a creation of Indian designer Anju Modi during Delhi Couture Week 2011 in New Delhi, India, Sunday, July 24, 2011.

(AP Photo/Manish Swarup)

New Delhi - Shakti Kapoor's daughter Shraddha, who made her Bollywood debut with "Teen Patti", walked the catwalk for designer Anju Modi on Sunday, the third day of Synergy1 Delhi Couture Week (DCW), which started Friday. Bollywood diva Karishma Kapoor was earlier expected to walk for the Delhi-based designer but she pulled out of the fashion week because of personal reasons. It was reportedly said that the Anju was looking for a

big actress as a replacement to Karishma and that she was in talks with Rekha, Priyanka Chopra and Sonali Bendre. But Shraddha managed to get the slot. Shraddha, who received critical accolades for her movie "Luv Ka The End", has been signed by Yash Raj films for an upcoming project. The second edition of DCW is all about extravagant fashion, glamour, luxury and, of course, Bollywood. □



Models display the creations of Indian designer Anju Modi during Delhi Couture Week 2011 in New Delhi, India, Sunday, July 24, 2011.

(AP Photo/Manish Swarup)

Evans is first Australian to win Tour de France

Tour de France winner Cadel Evans of Australia, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, kisses the trophy on the podium in Paris, France, Sunday July 24, 2011.

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SPORTS Aruba TODAY

Miyazato beats Lewis by 2 shots at Evian Masters



Ai Miyazato of Japan cries as she holds her trophy after winning the Evian Masters women's golf tournament in Evian, eastern France, Sunday, July 24, 2011.

Associated Press

JEROME PUGMIRE

AP Sports Writer

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France (AP) — Ai Miyazato clinched her first title of the year at the Evian Masters on Sunday and pledged to share her prize money with the people still suffering in the aftermath of the disasters back home in Japan. Miyazato shot a 2-under 70 to protect her two-shot lead and hold off a surge from Stacy Lewis of the United States, the Kraft Nabisco winner who missed a golden chance to level the scores on the 16th hole. The 26-year-old Miyazato will now donate at least part of her \$487,500 first prize to the relief efforts in Japan.

"I haven't decided yet, whether it will be all of the amount or some of it," she said.

Continued on Page 20

SUB MARINERS

Mariners lose 15th straight, 12-8 to Red Sox



Boston Red Sox's Carl Crawford, right, steals second base as Seattle Mariners' Brendan Ryan drops the ball in the third inning of a baseball game in Boston, Sunday, July 24, 2011.

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McLaren Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain, center, receives the trophy, handed over by the governor of Rhineland-Palatinate, Kurt Beck, after winning the Formula One German Grand Prix at the Nuerburgring circuit, Nuerburg, Germany, Sunday, July 24, 2011.

Associated Press

McLaren's Hamilton wins German GP

PABLO GORONDI

Associated Press

NUERBURGRING, Germany (AP) — Lewis Hamilton of McLaren won a hard-fought German Grand Prix on Sunday, fending off challenges from Ferrari's Fernando Alonso and Mark Webber of Red Bull for his second victory of the season.

Hamilton started second but took the lead from Webber by the first turn, and McLaren then successfully defended the position in a cat-and-mouse game of pit stops between the top teams. Alonso finished 3.9 seconds back in second place, with Webber 9.7 seconds behind in third. "I feel great. One of the best races I think I've ever done," said Hamilton, who also won the third race of the season, the Chinese Grand Prix in Shanghai in April. "This is a massive step forward ... and I hope we can keep the momentum going."

It was the second victory in four races for McLaren after Jenson Button's win in Canada last month, and Hamilton is hopeful the British team has finally caught up with Red Bull.

"I appears so ... but coming into this weekend we didn't think we'd be so fast," Hamilton said. "I do still feel that the overall performance of the Red Bulls is better than ours." Hamilton's winning time was 1 hour, 37 minutes, 30.334 seconds around the 5.1-kilometer (3.2-mile) Nuerburgring circuit.

"Great job guys," Hamilton hollered through his team radio, "These are the kind of results we should be getting." The top three finishers were within 3 seconds of each other for long parts of the 60-lap race, and they each took turns being in the lead because of the three pits stops made by all of the top drivers.

The most exciting lead change came on lap 33, when Alonso returned to the track in front after a tire change, but was overtaken by Hamilton just meters after the pit lane exit.

Championship leader Sebastian Vettel of Red Bull was fourth — the first time all season he hasn't finished first or second. After 10 of 19 races, he tops the standings with 216 points, followed by Webber with 139 and Hamilton on 134. Alonso is fourth with 130.

Alonso had so little fuel left after crossing the finish line that the team told him to park his car at the side of the track — forcing him to hitch a ride back to pit lane sitting on Webber's Red Bull. But he didn't think the nearly-empty gas tank affected his efforts to catch up with Hamilton during the final stages of the race.

"We could not get any closer to Lewis," Alonso said. "With the medium tires we were not too quick, so we just controlled the gap with Mark and secured second place." □

Uruguay beats Paraguay 3-0 to win Copa America 2011



Uruguay's Alvaro Pereira, third from right, kisses the trophy while celebrating with teammates at the end of the Copa America final soccer match against Paraguay in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Sunday, July 24, 2011. Uruguay won the Copa America for a record 15th time after beating Paraguay 3-0 with two goals scored by Diego Forlan and one by Luis Suarez.

Associated Press

TALES AZZONI

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — Uruguay won the Copa America for a record 15th time after beating Paraguay 3-0 on Sunday from two goals by Diego Forlan and another from Luis Suarez.

Suarez scored in the 12th minute while Forlan hit the target in the 42nd and final minute of the match.

"We played as a group," said Suarez, who was selected as the best player of the tournament. "I think when groups are united like this, everyone together and going for the same thing, you can get things done."

The victory gives Uruguay its first Copa America title since 1995. The small country of 3.5 million also reached the World Cup semifinals a year ago, surpassing the performance of continental powers Brazil and Argentina.

"This is not the most important thing in the world, but it is very important for the Uruguayans," Uruguay coach Oscar Tabarez said. "It allows us to be united."

Argentina and Brazil were upset again in the quarterfinals of this tournament. Uruguay ousted Argentina on penalties and Paraguay eliminated Brazil, also in a

shootout.

Argentina has won the title 14 times, Brazil eight. Brazil had won four of the past five titles.

"Before coming to the match I was already thinking that I wanted to dedicate (the victory) to all the players and coaches who had won the other 14," Tabarez said.

Uruguay was the clear favorite going into the final, wrapping up a tournament filled with surprises.

Not only had Brazil and Argentina been sent home early, but Venezuela reached the third-place match on Saturday before losing 4-1 to Peru. Those two countries have been the weakest in the region in recent years, but they suddenly look formidable going into regional World Cup qualifying later this year.

Uruguay's squad featured 20 of the 23 players it took to the World Cup a year ago, showing teamwork and unselfish play with none of the vast star power of Argentina or Brazil.

"The important thing was getting started well," said Suarez, who had four goals — one fewer than Peru's Paolo Guerrero. "With two goals in the first half, I think it was very difficult for them to come back."

Suarez gave Uruguay the lead in a match it dominated in the opening minutes. Receiving a pass in the area, the Liverpool forward beat defender Dario Veron to score from a deflected left-footed shot that went in off the far post behind 'keeper Justo Villar.

Uruguay could have even have led in the second minute, when Villar stopped Diego Lugano's point-blank header.

Forlan, who was voted the best player at last year's World Cup, made it 2-0 by lashing a left-footed shot from 12 meters (yards) that left Villar flat-footed. He was set up after teammate Egidio Arevalo Rios had stolen the ball from a Paraguay player near midfield.

The Atletico Madrid striker had not scored in his 12 previous matches for the national team.

Sebastian Eguren almost made it 3-0 in the 74th, foiled when Villar stuck out his left arm with the ball headed for the net.

Forlan notched the final goal in the 90th, taking a pass from Suarez and scoring into the far corner.

"This has been a lot of work, going back many years," Forlan said. "It's been a job of doing things well and it's yielded results." □



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Red Sox's 17-hit attack beats Seattle 12-8

BOSTON (AP) — A new look. A different pregame attitude. Same result.

Seattle manager Eric Wedge was trying to keep things relaxed about an hour before the game, walking around and joking with some of his players and coaches.

He even went as far as shaving off his mustache following Saturday night's loss.

It didn't help. Seattle set a franchise record with its 15th straight loss, falling 12-8 to the Boston Red Sox on Sunday.

"This is definitely frustrating," said Mariners shortstop Brendan Ryan, who hit a grand slam and drove in five runs. "There aren't too many laughs now. There shouldn't be. We battled today.

We just couldn't make up enough ground.

"Once again I don't know what to say.

It seems like once again it's Ground Hog Day — a lot of things have been going right and wrong. Pretty unbelievable."

Jarrold Saltalamacchia drove in four runs and Kevin Youkilis hit a two-run homer for the Red Sox.

The Mariners jumped ahead 2-0 in the first on Miguel Olivo's two-run homer, but Boston answered with five runs against Michael Pineda (8-7) in the bottom of the inning.

"It's frustrating, sure, but we've got a lot of baseball to play," Wedge said. "We're trying to get guys going in the right direction, but we've got to put it all together to get a win against the teams we're playing now."

The loss broke Seattle's record for its longest losing streak, set in 1992. It is the

longest in the majors since Kansas City lost 19 in a row in 2005.

Unlike during much of the streak, the Mariners actually put up solid offensive numbers, but the bullpen gave up five runs after Pineda was tagged for seven in 4 1-3 innings.

"I don't know what happened," Pineda said of the first inning.

"Obviously something was going on with Pineda," Ryan said.

"Guys usually aren't teeing off on him. They obviously saw something."

Seattle had been held to three or fewer runs 10 times — including the initial nine games — during the losing stretch.

Tim Wakefield (6-3) joined Roger Clemens as the only pitchers to strike out 2,000 batters with Boston and moved one win from his 200th victory. But the 44-year-old knuckleballer left after giving up Ryan's grand slam that cut the lead to 11-7 with one out in the seventh.

Boston's powerhouse lineup had 17 hits, with Saltalamacchia, Adrian Gonzalez and Carl Crawford getting three each.

The Red Sox kept their three-game lead in the AL East over the New York Yankees, who beat the Oakland Athletics 7-5.

Baseball's best-hitting team scored at least 11 runs for the fourth time in Wakefield's last eight starts. The Red Sox swept the three-game series with their 17th win in 20 games.

Wakefield struggled in the first, giving up the homer to Olivo, his 14th of the season. But the Red Sox took the lead after sending just four batters to the plate.

Jacoby Ellsbury started with



Boston Red Sox's Tim Wakefield, right, gets the ball from Jarrod Saltalamacchia after striking out Seattle Mariners' Mike Carp in the sixth inning of a baseball game in Boston, Sunday, July 24, 2011. Wakefield joined Roger Clemens as the only pitchers to strike out 2,000 batters with Boston and moved one win away from his 200th victory. The Red Sox won 12-8.

Associated Press

a walk and scored on a single by Gonzalez before Youkilis hit his 14th homer for a 3-2 lead.

David Ortiz then singled and Crawford doubled, putting runners at second and third. Saltalamacchia then lined a two-run single to right.

Wakefield allowed just one hit through the next three innings. But in the fifth Ryan doubled home Ichiro Suzuki, who had singled.

Again, the Red Sox responded with five runs in

the bottom of the inning.

They loaded the bases on a single by Gonzalez, a walk to Youkilis and an infield single by Ortiz. Crawford followed with a hard, two-run single just inside the third-base line, Josh Reddick doubled in a run and Saltalamacchia singled in two more.

Wakefield ended the sixth with his 2,000th strikeout, getting Mike Carp on a foul tip that Saltalamacchia held on to. The catcher then trotted to meet Wake-

field at the first-base line and hand him the ball.

Wakefield received a standing ovation and tipped his cap before entering the dugout.

But he retired just one more batter before giving up four straight hits — singles by Jack Cust, Franklin Gutierrez and Suzuki, and Ryan's second career grand slam and second homer of the year. Boston's last two runs scored on RBI singles by Gonzalez in the sixth and Ellsbury in the seventh. □

Cadel Evans of Australia wins Tour de France

NAOMI KOPPEL
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — After two runner-up finishes, Cadel Evans finally stood on the top of the podium on the Champs Elysees as champion of cycling's great race.

Wrapped in his national flag and with tears in his eyes, Evans listened as Australia's anthem played Sunday after he became the first Australian — and oldest rider since World War II — to win the Tour de France.

"I couldn't be any happier. A few people always believed in me. I always believed in me. And we did it," the 34-year-old Evans said.

He celebrated after crossing the finish line in the pack on the Champs-Elysee, embracing riders from different teams as the massive crowd on France's most famous thoroughfare cheered wildly.

Evans bounded up the steps onto the podium, taking deep breaths, then appeared at the top looking calm and waved the bouquet he received in the air. "Thank you to everyone. It's really incredible," he told the crowd.

Evans was joined on the podium by the Schleck brothers of Luxembourg — Andy,



Tour de France winner Cadel Evans of Australia, 3rd right, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, stands on the podium after winning the Tour de France cycling race in Paris, France, Sunday July 24, 2011. Others are from 2nd left: Pierre Roland of France, wearing the best young rider's white jersey, Samuel Sanchez of Spain, wearing the best climber's dotted jersey, and Mark Cavendish of Britain, wearing the best sprinter's green jersey. Copyright 2011 The

Associated Press

who finished second overall for the third straight year, and Frank. Andy finished 1 minute, 34 seconds behind Evans in the final standings. Australian singer Tina Arena sang the national anthem. Evans' Italian wife, Chiara, stood beside him after the presentation ceremony. "I think he's worked very hard," she said.

He's only the third non-European to win the Tour since it started in 1903. Greg LeMond broke the European dominance in 1986, with the first of his three wins, and his fellow American Lance Armstrong won seven straight from 1999.

It's been a long wait for Evans, who first showed himself as a challenger for

major races in 2002, and twice finished second in the Tour, in 2007 and 2008, but couldn't quite make it to the top of the podium until now. Evans is the oldest winner of the Tour since World War II, narrowly eclipsing Gino Bartali of Italy — who was also 34 but slightly younger — when he won in 1948. The all-time re-

cord was set by 36-year-old Firmin Lambot of Belgium — in 1922.

"Cadel was the best of the Tour and he deserved to win," said Andy Schleck. "Second isn't bad, and my brother was on the podium too. I'll be back to win this Tour. We have a date for next year."

Sunday's 21st and final stage — the most prestigious for the race's sprinters — was won by Britain's Mark Cavendish for the third year in a row, despite being forced to change his bike on the Champs-Elysees. He also took the green jersey for the overall best sprinter. Cavendish crossed the line holding out the green jersey he was wearing, and then kissed it. Despite his 20 Tour stage victories, the jersey had eluded him until now.

"Finally!" he said. Second place in the stage went to Edvald Boasson Hagen of Norway, and third to Andre Greipel of Germany.

This year was a far cry from the Tours of many recent years that were dominated almost from the start by Armstrong or, later, Alberto Contador. This was a race that defied predictions and was still hanging in the balance on the final weekend. □



Evian Masters

Continued from Page 17

"This year I was playing for Japan."

Miyazato played with consistency throughout the tournament, dropping shots on just five of the 72 holes overall and finishing with a 15-under total of

273. Lewis also shot a 70 to finish two shots back in second, with a trio of players another stroke behind.

"It feels amazing, this is my favorite tournament so I'm really happy that I could win this again," Miyazato said. "Especially (because) right now, Japan's having a tough time. So I am just

really happy to bring some happiness to Japan."

Miyazato had not won a title since the Safeway Classic last August, and the 26-year-old Japanese now has seven LPGA titles overall. She won her first LPGA title at Evian in 2009, and added five more last year.

"There was so much happening at the beginning of the season, to be honest," Miyazato said, referring to the earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan in March. "I always have Japan in my thoughts, it gives me motivation to play." Miyazato raised both arms in the air after she sank her winning putt, and several players ran on to the green to soak her with water. Miyazato joins two-time winners Laura Davies of England and Annika Sorenstam of Sweden, and needs one more

Evian win to tie Sweden's Helen Alfredsson, the inaugural tournament champion and record-holder with three. "I want to win it as many times as possible," Miyazato said. "I am looking forward to getting more opportunities." Lewis, the Kraft Nabisco winner, kept the pressure on and moved one shot behind Miyazato with a birdie on the 15th.

"We played in the same group yesterday, she played well without mistakes," Miyazato said. "Even though she was in front of me I knew she would play solid today." But, with a birdie chance to level the match on the next hole, Lewis three-putted for a bogey to be two adrift of Miyazato again, her chances slipping away. "That's the one shot I wish I could go back and hit

again. Just left myself in a really bad spot," Lewis said. "When I missed that putt, I looked up and saw (Miyazato) had fallen back to 15 under, so I was kind of disappointed with that." Lewis had been self-critical after all her previous three rounds, saying she lacked a cutting edge in the last few holes of the day.

"I knew I was in (contention) when I made the putt on 15," Lewis said. "Just kind of disappointed with 16." Lewis' luck had clearly deserted her when her putt for birdie on the 17th stopping agonizingly short. She could only make par on the 18th, a hole made for attacking. Miki Saiki of Japan, Angela Stanford of the United States, and South Korea's I.K. Kim all finished three shots behind Miyazato. □

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S. Korea's Park Tae-hwan regains 400 free title

ANDREW DAMPF
AP Sports Writer

SHANGHAI (AP) — Olympic champion Park Tae-hwan of South Korea showed he's back in top form and Italy's Federica Pellegrini remained unbeatable in the 400-meter freestyle on the opening night of traditional swimming at the world championships Sunday.

Michael Phelps' first race ended in disappointment, meanwhile, as the United States had to settle for bronze in the 4-x-100 relay behind surprise winner Australia and runner-up France. Phelps' leadoff leg put the Americans second, but they dropped from there and Australia led from start to finish, with former sprint world record holder Eamon Sullivan holding off France's Fabien Gilot in the anchor leg.

It was the first time the American men failed to win a relay since the 2007 worlds in Melbourne, Australia, when Ian Crocker jumped in too early on an exchange in the morning heats, resulting in a disqualification.

"It's tough not starting off how we want to," Phelps said.

"I said I wanted to be faster than I was last year and I was faster than I was last year. It stinks but I think it will give us a little bit of motivation for the rest of the meet."

The Netherlands won the women's relay with the same four swimmers who took the title at the 2008 Olympics and 2009 worlds:

Inge Dekker, Ranomi Kromowidjojo, Marleen Veldhuis and Femke Heemskerk. Park took the lead back midway through the men's 400 free then pulled away over the last two laps to touch in 3 minutes, 42.04 seconds, a distant 1.20 seconds in front of rising Chinese rival Sun Yang.

It was a sharp contrast from the last worlds in Rome two years ago, when Park failed to even make the final in this event.

"I (was) glad to swim in lane one, which allowed me to fully concentrate on my own tempo and not to get distracted from the competition," Park said.

Defending champion and world record holder Paul Biedermann of Germany settled for third, 2.10 back.

"I'm really pleased with this time," Biedermann said. "It's the best I could do at the moment. I felt pretty bad during the race. ... I saw Park and I thought, 'Well this guy is away, don't look at him anymore, look at silver or bronze.'"

In the women's race, Pellegrini was only fifth at the race's midpoint, but then surged into the lead one lap later and cruised to victory in 4:01.97.

Olympic champion Rebecca Adlington showed why she's a strong favorite for gold next year at her home London Games by taking silver, albeit a distant 2.04 behind, while Camille Muffat of France took the bronze, 2.09 back.

"I knew I could have a race

like this and it went perfectly," Pellegrini said. "This gold is different from the one two years ago. I approach races differently now — I eat and sleep, I'm much calmer."

Park's gold at the 2008 Beijing Games was South Korea's first Olympic victory in swimming and it made him immensely popular at home, having also won this event at the 2007 worlds in Melbourne, Australia.

After his Rome fiasco, Park showed signs of a recovery by sweeping the 200 and 400 free at the Guangzhou Asian Games in November, and now he will clearly go into next year's London Olympics as the favorite again. The Australian men's relay squad has also itself up well for London, and a possible repeat of its victory at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

"We probably haven't made it too public but deep down this is what we wanted for a long time," Sullivan said. "It gives us a great opportunity next year to repeat Sydney. We've got the talent, we've got the experience," he said. "Next year's going to be about building towards that and making sure we follow up this with the gold."

Before an enthusiastic crowd at the freshly built Oriental Sports Center, swimmers were introduced before their events one by one under a spotlight, with the rest of the lights in the arena turned off like before boxing bouts. □



Michael Phelps, right, and Garrett Weber Gale of the U.S. watch their team's race in the men's 4x100m Freestyle relay, at the FINA Swimming World Championships in Shanghai, China, Sunday, July 24, 2011. The U.S. team won the bronze.

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matinee: 11:30
late show: 11:30

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daily: 12:15 - 3:00
matinee: 12:15 - 3:00
late show: 11:30

TRANSFORMER 3
DARK OF THE MOON
daily: 4:45 - 8:00
matinee: 11:15
late show: 11:15

CARS 2
daily: 12:00 - 2:30
matinee: 12:00 - 2:30
late show: 11:30

KUNG FU PANDA 2
daily: 12:00 - 2:30
matinee: 12:00 - 2:30
late show: 11:30

THE ZOOKEEPER
daily: 4:45 - 7:15 - 9:45
matinee: 12:00 - 2:15
late show: 12:00

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS 2
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matinee: 2:00
late show: 12:00

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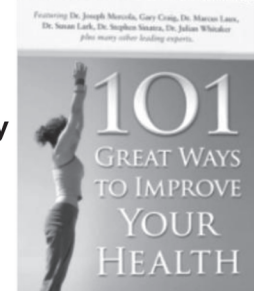
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Co-authored by Aruba's
Carlos Viana, OMD, CCN

Health and Fitness:

Speed hiker thrives on natural rhythms of Appalachian Trail

KEITH MULVIHILL

© 2011 New York Times

On a sunny July afternoon, a dirt road tucked inside the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area near Blairstown, N.J., was calm and serene. A deer,

2,180-mile path in 57 days, 8 hours and 35 minutes. This summer, she started hiking north to south on June 15 and hopes to break the overall record set by Andrew Thompson in 2005: 47 days, 13 hours and 31

time we are really trying to make sure she gets all the calories she needs."

As Pharr Davis, 28, devoured the wrap and took swigs of a smoothie, the Pit Crew readied plastic bags of snacks and refilled water bottles. "She needs to eat a snack about every three miles," Davis said.

A few minutes later, she was hiking at a pretty good clip, following the white blazes on tree trunks that mark the path between Mount Katahdin in Maine and Springer Mountain in Georgia, the northern and southern ends of the Appalachian Trail.

"Today is a good day: my shins are only a little sore, and the weather is per-

one point, sapped by exhaustion, she said she got off the trail for about three miles and had to turn around to find her way back.

"The trail is very humbling, you make mistakes," she said. Asked about the upside of hiking all day, Pharr Davis did not hesitate. "Animals!" she cried out.

"Any time I've seen a moose or a bear, it's like taking a little energy pill," she said.

Then she rattled off a list of furry encounters: seven or eight moose, three bears in the past 24 hours, a porcupine, skunks and "lots of little critters."

If Pharr Davis makes it to the top of Springer Mountain, it



Jennifer Pharr Davis, who holds a women's speed record for hiking the Appalachian Trail, crossing a river on the Appalachian Trail near Moxie Pond in Maine. Pharr Davis is trying to break a speed record for hiking, but she says it was encounters with nature that sustain her.

(Melissa Dobbins via The New York Times)

uninterested in the sight of a man eating a peanut butter sandwich while leaning against his car, strolled across the road and disappeared into the woods. A few yards away, a stream tumbled under a wooden footbridge.

The peaceful scene was broken when two SUVs drove up the hill, a pale cloud of dust in their wake. Out popped Brew Davis from the lead car.

"Perfect timing!" he shouted. "Jen will be crossing here in about 15 or 20 minutes."

He was referring to his wife, Jennifer Pharr Davis, an accomplished long distance and speed hiker. She holds the women's speed record on the Appalachian Trail for a supported thru-hike, which she set in 2008 when she trekked the roughly

minutes. Davis immediately began preparing food and snacks for his wife's impending arrival.

"The last time we did this, it was mostly just the two of us and I referred to myself as her Sherpa," he said. About 20 minutes later, Pharr Davis and another Pit Crew member, Melissa Dobbins of Black Mountain, N.C., came bounding out of the forest.

"Hey!" they all yelled. Pharr Davis, who is tall, lean and agile, made a beeline for a folding camp chair, sat and put her feet on the back bumper of the car. The Pit Crew went into action.

"The last time we did this Jen lost about 15 pounds in the first month," Davis said as he handed his wife a wrap filled with blueberries smothered in Nutella. "This



Jennifer Pharr Davis, who holds a women's speed record for hiking the Appalachian Trail, icing her shins during a hiking break.

(Melissa Dobbins via The New York Times)

fect," Pharr Davis said. This was her 21st straight day on the trail and she had gone more than 850 miles. She added that shin splints and a bout with diarrhea early on nearly ended her trek.

"I cried a lot this summer," she said. "When I got sick, I thought it was the end of my hike."

She soldiered on through a sleet storm and strong winds in New Hampshire's White Mountains. But at

will be her third time completing the trail. In 2005, she took about four and a half months to thru-hike the Appalachian Trail. Most thru-hikers adopt a trail name for the duration of their journey; Pharr Davis, a classics major in college, opted to riff on Odysseus and chose Odysa. Last year, she published a book about the experience, "Becoming Odysa: Epic Adventures on the Appalachian Trail." □

U.S.: Heat wave deaths rise

ANAHAD O'CONNOR

© 2011 New York Times News Service

A punishing wave of heat and humidity continued its hold over a large part of the country on Sunday, raising the toll of heat-related deaths even as forecasters promised that relief, in the form of a cooler blast of air from Canada, would arrive late Sunday.

From the Midwest to the Eastern Seaboard, it was as if Earth had broken its orbit and veered closer to the sun, with millions of Americans stepping outside this weekend into temperatures that steadily climbed toward triple digits.

That, combined with the unrelenting humidity, pushed the heat index on Sunday afternoon toward a staggering 120 degrees in Washington and 105 to 115 degrees in New York, Philadelphia and other Northeast cities.

The National Weather Service said the mid-Atlantic could experience record high temperatures, including in Washington, where the thermometer hit 105 degrees at Dulles International Airport on Friday, the highest reading ever there. In Central Park in Manhattan, the mercury rose to 100 degrees Saturday afternoon, breaking the record of 99 degrees set in 1991, and at Ronald Reagan National Airport in Washington, it hit 102 degrees, breaking the daily record set in 1991, said Christopher Vaccaro, a spokesman for the weather service.

Across the Midwest and the Plains, the authorities urged people to take precautions and tried to cope with a growing death toll. □

Threatened by iPad, PCs start to look like tablets



In this product image provided by Acer Inc., the Acer Iconia, a Windows laptop that looks like any other when the lid is down. When you open it, you'll find two touch-sensitive screens and no keyboard, similar to a tablet computer. To type, you bring up a virtual keyboard on the lower screen. If you're not using the keyboard, Web pages can flow from the top screen to the bottom one.

Associated Press

PETER SVENSSON
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The response by computer makers to the iPad stealing sales from them: Make their PCs more like iPads.

The "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em" strategy" is prompting a wave of experimentation with the design of the laptop, which has been largely unchanged for two decades.

Touch-sensitive screens and the use of Google's Android system for mobile devices are two ways the PC industry is adapting. About 50 million tablets are expected to be sold this year, and that could double to as many as 100 million next year. PC shipments worldwide grew just over 2 percent in the second quarter, short of what research firms IDC and Gartner had expected. The popularity of tablet computers was one of the main reasons.

One way PC makers are countering the threat is with iPad-style tablets running Android, but these haven't seen wide success so far. And in trying to emulate the iPad, they're competing with not just Apple, but also with phone makers such as Motorola Inc., which are launching their own tablets. So PC makers are offering hybrids that try to offer the best of both worlds. Some are tablet-like devices that come with keyboards, which the iPad doesn't have. Others are PC-like, combining the tablet's signature touch-screen with

the ability to run heavy-duty Windows programs for photo editing and design.

Witness the Acer Iconia, a Windows laptop that looks like any other when the lid is down. When you open it, you'll find two touch-sensitive screens and no keyboard, similar to a tablet computer. To type, you bring up a virtual keyboard on the lower screen. If you're not using the keyboard, Web pages can flow from the top screen to the bottom one.

Another iPad-like laptop is the Dell Inspiron Duo. Its screen can be flipped around to face outward when the lid is closed. When folded that way, it works like a tablet.

Lenovo Group also sells a Windows laptop with a screen that can be detached from the keyboard to function as an Android tablet. "We should learn some things from tablets," such as the iPad's user-friendly interface and the ease of installing software from outside parties, said Yang Yuanqing, the CEO of Lenovo, the world's fourth-largest maker of PCs. Hewlett-Packard Co., the world's largest maker of personal computers, is giving its PCs the ability to run applications written for its webOS software, which runs on smartphones and a tablet, the TouchPad.

In their experimentation, PC makers are reviving designs haven't been very successful in their previous incarnations. The laptop with a

screen that detaches to become a tablet is an idea that dates to 2002, when a flurry of tablet computers debuted along with Microsoft Corp.'s Windows Tablet Edition.

This earlier generation of tablet PCs didn't catch on because they were expensive and too heavy for comfortable use in tablet mode. "Windows Tablet Edition"

wasn't much different from regular Windows, and it wasn't fully adapted for tablet use. Microsoft added more touch-oriented features when it released Windows 7 in 2009.

Even with the improvements in Windows, however, the PC faces hurdles in mimicking the tablet's design. Windows isn't a very friendly operating system

for tablets, partly because it needs Intel-style processors to run on.

These chips drain batteries much faster than the cellphone-style chips used in the iPad, with a core designed by ARM Holdings PLC. ARM chips can save power by turning off parts of themselves when they're not in use, among other tricks. □

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He then won the contest of the "Gran Orkestra Sinfonica" from Frankfurt where he encountered himself with Violin fanatic musicians from all over the world.

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Greeks struggle to shed old ways of thinking

CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — A few Greek entrepreneurs perch in front of laptops in bare offices above a ground-floor supermarket, five minutes' walk from the Athens square convulsed by riots last month over the country's economic crisis. "Innovate," a wall slogan exhorts. "Originate." A bowl of fist-sized plastic balls sits on a table, ripe for the plucking.

Sure, the touches are geeky. But if there is hope for debt-laden Greece, which has just been bailed out again by the EU, there is a glimmer of it here. A small enterprise called CoLab Workspace rents space to tech-savvy start-ups on the theory that the more they mingle, the more they thrive. This nascent pocket of dynamism won't make much of a dent in a culture of free-loading and favor-trading that burrowed deep into the Greek psyche, but it is a symbol, however rarefied, of fresh thinking.

For the problem is not just the numbers, the dots that connect a picture of economic collapse. Unemployment, austerity measures, bailout funds and the slumping stock market are one thing. Modern Greece, whose ancestors laid foundations of art, democracy and individualism, is also reckoning with



In this Wednesday, June 29, 2011 file photo, a protester hits out with a stick against riot policemen during clashes at Athens' main Syntagma square.

Associated Press

ingrained habits of dependence, accompanied today by a yawning sense of betrayal and hopelessness, that block its path to recovery.

"It's extremely difficult. Here, in general, innovation never existed. The majority of the companies, they relied on the state, on the government. It was a totally wrong approach," said Vassilis Nikolopoulos, a computer engineer whose IT startup, Intelen, aims to help firms monitor and curb their energy consumption. He recently shifted his operations to CoLab Workspace from a conventional office that cost more.

Declaring that "the state is dead," in that it has no money to support projects, Nikolopoulos said he has raised about one-third of



Co-founder of CoLab Workspace Stavros Messinis talks about his company in central Athens, on Wednesday, July 20, 2011.

Associated Press

the roughly \$300,000 needed for initial funding from private investors and that his 7-member company plans

to export services even if it entails failure, a rite of passage for any aggressive entrepreneur.

"We only consume," he said of the passive culture of Greek business. "There was no need to create something because you would sell to the state."

Educated in several European countries, he registered his company in the Mediterranean island of Cyprus to attract foreign investment from traders who give Greece a wide berth, and to avoid the shackles of Greek business culture, including corruption, bureaucracy and heavy taxation. Nikolopoulos is the picture of a smart corporate executive, with the jargon to match — he says he will "attack the market" — but he draws inspiration from some unexpected sources. Outlining his business philosophy, he evoked Vladimir Lenin's revolutionary vision, and praised the prime minister of Turkey, Greece's historical enemy, for firm leadership while presiding over his country's economy boom. Many of Greece's brightest minds, however, feel they have no choice but to build careers abroad, anticipating an opportunity drought that will last a decade.

Nikos Georgiopoulos, a 29-year-old former employee of the International Monetary Fund, recently

found a job in the insurance industry in Vienna. His sister, a biologist, failed to find work in Greece and got a job in Switzerland. His father imports auto parts but is struggling to keep his small business afloat.

In the old days, Greece's institutions were inefficient but people complained less because the money was flowing, Georgiopoulos said. Now that the government is cutting spending and salaries as part of a pact to secure international funds, he said, the "tradeoff between state and society" has crumbled and, as in the Great Depression before World War II, the wealthy will suffer far less than those of modest means.

"People actually don't know what is going to happen to them," he said. "They start to show signs of societal disintegration."

Deep in recession, Greece is struggling to reduce its budget deficit from 10.5 percent of Gross Domestic Product in 2010 to 7.5 percent this year as it implements harsh austerity measures that combine pension and public wage cuts with tax and retirement age increases. Greek unemployment has soared to over 16 percent, and more than 40 percent of Greeks aged 15 to 24 don't have jobs.

The hardship has eroded the credibility of the state. □

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Where's the volume? Stock trading quiet in July

By **CHIP CUTTER**
 AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — This month may be the slowest in the stock market in more than three years.

Trading volume, or the number of shares bought and sold, is down because there are fewer big investors buying stocks.

And those who want to buy are worried about the job market and the European debt crisis — and the budget impasse in Washington.

If Congress and the White House don't agree on budget cuts and raising the government's borrowing limit, the U.S. is at risk of defaulting on its debt after Aug. 2. Daily volume on the New York Stock Exchange is down 22 percent so far in July compared with the same period in 2010, according to data provider FactSet. About 3.7 billion shares have traded hands every day on average, down from 4.7 billion in July last year. If that continues, July will have the lowest average daily trading volume since December 2007, says Patrick O'Shaughnessy, a research analyst at Raymond James. Low volume is worrisome because it suggests that few investors are driving the stock market's gains or losses. That creates the risk for bigger price swings. When, for example, there are few buyers, someone trying to sell a stock may be forced to keep lowering the price in hopes that someone will want it — the same as a homeowner who can't find a buyer for a house.

A lack of volume also indicates that some investors don't believe that stocks are worth buying right now. "Volume in many respects represents conviction," says Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at Harris Private Bank. "And there's just very little conviction." Traders have reason to be wary: — Job growth is weak. Many investors were

stunned when the government reported earlier this month that employers created just 18,000 new jobs in June. That was lower than the average of 215,000 monthly jobs created in February through April.

— The manufacturing industry is in a slump, too. The Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank said last week that manufacturing activity in the Northeast rose only slightly in July after falling to the lowest level in two years in June.

Supply disruptions from the March 11 earthquake in Japan have hurt factory production. — Debt problems remain in the U.S. and Europe.

If there's no agreement in Washington and the government defaults on its debt, that could have a catastrophic impact on the financial markets.

Some analysts say stocks could fall the way they did during the 2008 financial crisis. Meanwhile, European leaders approved a new aid package for Greece last week to reduce its debt, but it's unclear how that will work. All this has led investors to avoid stocks. And that has hurt volume.

In June, investors withdrew \$14.5 billion more than they deposited into U.S. stock mutual funds, according to consulting firm Strategic Insight.

That was the largest withdrawal from stock funds since August 2010. "Investors are running scared," said Frank Barbera, portfolio manager of the Sierra Core



In this June 2, 2011 photo, American flags are displayed on the New York Stock Exchange in New York. Associated Press

Retirement Fund.

Fewer hedge funds are in existence today than in 2008, which helps to explain the lower volume, says Ryan Detrick, senior technical strategist at Schaeffer's Investment Research.

There were approximately 10,233 hedge funds in the world in the second quarter of 2008, before the financial crisis and stock market crash. By the end of June, there were 9,443, according to Chicago-based research firm HFR.

Even with the low volume, though, stocks have risen this month. The Standard & Poor's 500 index is up

1.8 percent, while the Dow Jones industrial average is up 2.1 percent. The technology-focused Nasdaq composite index is up 3.1

percent. Stocks are up, in part, because companies like Apple Inc. and Coca-Cola Co. have reported strong profits. □

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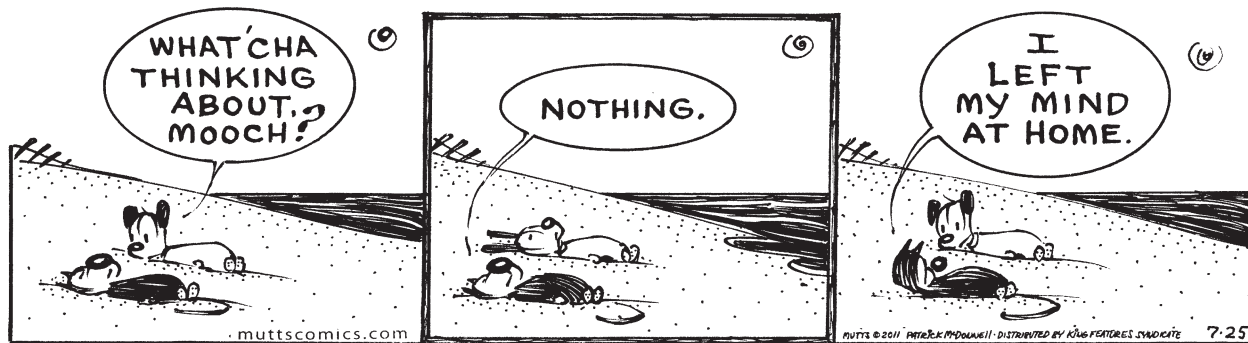
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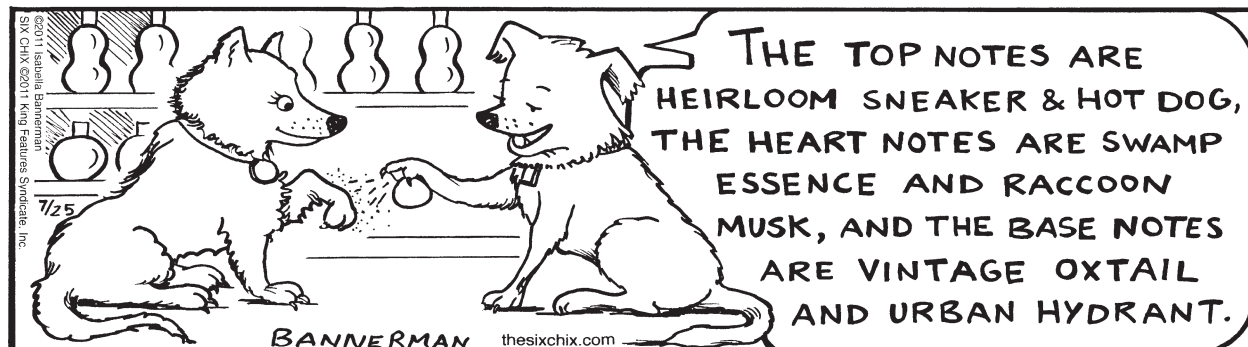


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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

9		2	5					6
	7						1	
			3	6	9			4
		6		2		8		1
		1		3		6		
5		7		9		4		
7			9	8	3			
	1						2	
3					7	9		8

Difficulty Level ★

7/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer	3	5	1	2	7	8	4	6	9
	8	4	2	9	3	6	1	5	7
	7	6	9	5	4	1	8	3	2
	5	9	3	1	8	7	2	4	6
	2	7	6	4	9	3	5	1	8
	4	1	8	6	5	2	9	7	3
	6	8	5	3	2	4	7	9	1
	9	3	7	8	1	5	6	2	4
	1	2	4	7	6	9	3	8	5

ACROSS

- 1 Female horses
6 Heating chamber
10 Treaty
14 Saying
15 5,280 feet
16 African lily
17 Philanthropist
18 Troubles
19 "King of the Jungle"
20 Approximate calculation
22 ___ clef; musical staff symbol
24 Bawls
25 Snob
26 Female graduate
29 Proficient
30 Cut off
31 Berate
33 Connery and Penn
37 Make an error
39 TV's Couric
41 Pass over
42 Long-running Broadway musical
44 Fish line holders
46 ___ cream cone
47 Glowing coal
49 ___ over; flipped
51 Beseet by problems
54 Couch
55 Royal decrees
56 Open air blazes
60 Nurse's helper
61 ___ instant; spontaneously
63 Perfect
64 Lower limbs
65 Mild oath
66 Stop
67 Hard cooking fat
68 Optometrist's concerns
69 Went astray
- DOWN**
1 ___ up; reconciled

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20					21			22	23					
			24				25							
26	27	28					29							
30				31		32				33		34	35	36
37			38		39				40		41			
42				43		44				45		46		
			47		48			49		50				
51	52	53						54						
55							56					57	58	59
60					61	62				63				
64						65				66				
67					68					69				

7/25/11

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

C	H	A	T	S		O	D	D	S		E	A	R	S
R	E	B	U	T		R	O	O	K		G	L	O	W
A	R	E	N	A		A	L	G	A		R	A	G	E
M	E	D	I	T	A	T	E		T	E	E	M	E	D
		N	I	C	E		B	E	D	S	O	R	E	
F	O	R	G	O	T		B	I	R	D	S			
E	V	A		N	E	A	R	S		Y	E	A	S	T
T	E	N	D		D	R	O	O	P		S	L	U	R
A	N	T	I	C		M	A	N	I	C		P	R	O
		S	H	R	E	D		E	R	A	S	E	D	
A	P	P	L	I	E	D		F	R	O	M			
T	I	L	I	N	G		R	U	S	S	E	L	L	S
L	E	A	K		A	R	I	D		S	C	O	O	P
A	C	N	E		L	O	N	G		L	H	A	S	A
S	E	E	D		E	D	G	E		Y	E	M	E	N

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7/25/11

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 38 Most violent | 53 The Oak ____ |
| 40 Sir ____ John | Boys; musical |
| 43 Give off | group |
| 45 Be enough | 54 Anthems |
| 48 Next to | 56 Cause of woe |
| 50 Oakland | 57 Ship's stern |
| football player | 58 At ____; relaxed |
| 51 Makes well | 59 Snow vehicle |
| 52 French farewell | 62 Negative vote |

Writer Banon frees herself

Continued from Page 10

Banon's first novel, "J'ai Oublié de la Tuer," or "I Forgot to Kill Her," – one of several semi-autobiographical novels, as she calls them – was published in 2004 to good reviews. In it, Banon recounted how she was beaten by an alcoholic Moroccan nanny and how the nanny introduced her to a man who later groped her.

Banon left home at 14 to be a nanny herself. She later graduated from journalism school and interned at major newspapers and magazines, including Le Figaro.

Harold Cobert, a writer and a close friend of Banon, described her as a smart, fearless woman who has absorbed life's blows with humor and cheer.

"She thinks one should never dwell on the past," Cobert said.

But after the episode with Strauss-Kahn, she says she was branded with a reputation. Many in the French media world knew about her accusations against Strauss-Kahn and feared them, she said. She implied that she was a marked person. "I was hired at a radio station and then a month later, my boss would tell me abruptly that he couldn't keep me anymore," she said. Some Socialists have suggested that Banon was manipulated to stage a plot against Strauss-Kahn, who recently resigned as head of the International Monetary Fund, and embarrass the party. They point to her unpaid position at the City Hall of Boulogne, near Paris, where the mayor is a member of President Nicolas Sarkozy's party, and her intermittent writing for a website close to the party, Atlantico.fr. But Banon has written little that could be considered political. Since Strauss-Kahn's arrest, Banon has been living at friends' apartments in Paris, with just a red suitcase and her dog Flaubert, a Weimaraner. She has a motto, tattooed around her wrist: "Never look back, never think twice." □

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Wk 10, \$6,500 1BR
Garden

Wk 14, \$13,000 2BR Pool*

Wk 24 \$1,860 Studio

Wk 19, 3,15 1BR Garden

Wk 20, \$4,200 1BR Pool

Wk 31 \$1,920 1BR
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Wk 32 \$7,200 2BR Pool

Wk 38 \$6,600 2BR Pool

Wk 42 \$4,500 1BR Pool

Wk 45 \$11,000 2BR
Pool*

Wk 46 \$10,000 2BR Pool*

Wk 47 \$10,000 2BR Pool*

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Producers:

Kurt, Finn, Rachel
still feel the 'Glee'

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — "Glee" stars Lea Michele, Chris Colfer and Cory Monteith will appear in future seasons of the hit show.

Co-creator and executive producer Brad Falchuk told thousands of so-called "Gleeks" gathered at the Comic-Con fan convention on Sunday that Rachel, Kurt and Finn "are not done with the show after this season."

Reports surfaced last month that the three stars would not return for season four of the musical Fox series. Their characters are high school seniors who are set to graduate at the end of season three.

"They're seniors, they're graduating, but just because they're graduating doesn't mean they're leaving the show," Falchuk told fans, noting that the actors remain under contract. □

'Drop Dead Diva' magnet for stars

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Some TV shows really know how to use the venerable tradition of stunt casting.

"All in the Family" created a classic when Sammy Davis Jr. dropped in on the Bunkers and gave racism the kiss-off. "Love Boat" trafficked in volume and variety, with an A-to-Z roll call of guest stars ranging from Eve Arden to Adrian Zmed.

Lifetime's quirky fantasy "Drop Dead Diva," shown on Sunday nights, is putting its own spin on the convention, boosted by a celebrity fan club that likes to do more than watch.

A partial accounting of this season's guests alone includes Paula Abdul, Brandy Norwood, Kathy Griffin, LeAnn Rimes, Lance Bass, Quinton Aaron, Valerie Harper, Nancy Grace, Jamie Lynn Sigler and Clay Aiken. □

Olivia Wilde:

Look past the beauty, if you can



Actress Olivia Wilde in Los Angeles, June 22, 2011. Wilde, a regular on the Fox series "House," has seven films in stages of completion.

(Kevin Scanlon/The New York Times)

BROOKS BARNES

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LOS ANGELES — A clone army of starlets marches through Hollywood casting offices every day — all beautiful, all talented, all interchangeable. Pick one, any one. But every so often a young actress rolls into town and drops jaws. Keep your eye on that one, studio executives say. That one is different. Olivia Wilde, 27, is one of those women.

The green-eyed bombshell arrived in the movie capital in 2002, strangely enough, to work in a casting agency, your basic head-shot processing plant. Her parents, two prominent Washington journalists with all sorts of Beltway and celebrity connections, helped arrange it. The goal, according to her mother, Leslie Cockburn, a producer for "60 Minutes," was to squelch Wilde's interest in acting by exposing her to a particularly hardhearted corner of the dream factory, where hundreds of resumes are casually tossed aside.

"They thought I would take one look at the cattiness



Actress Olivia Wilde photographed with the hills of Los Angeles as a backdrop, June 22, 2011. Wilde is an actress who has hit the film industry by storm, ever so quietly, and perhaps accidentally.

(Kevin Scanlon/The New York Times)

and people from Yale and Julliard begging for jobs and hightail it out of town," Wilde said recently over lunch at a tucked-away little cafe on Sunset Boulevard.

But Wilde was almost immediately cast herself, popping up in shows like "The OC" on Fox and landing a continuing supporting role on that network's hit series "House" as a self-destructive doctor. Her first big movie part, a Joan of Arc-like cyber warrior, came

last year in "Tron: Legacy." Now she has seven films in stages of completion, starting with "Cowboys & Aliens," an atypical action extravaganza that arrives on Friday from Universal Pictures, and continuing one week later with Universal's ultra-crude comedy "The Change-Up."

"Olivia reminds me a lot of Angelina Jolie — a fiercely intelligent, drop-dead gorgeous woman who knows what she wants to do and goes after it," said Donna

Langley, Universal's co-chairwoman.

Despite her success in landing ensemble movies Wilde is still waiting for that one breakout leading part, either a dramatic role that gets her noticed by critics or one that makes her the face of the film. Like what "Letters to Juliet" did for Amanda Seyfried or Emma Stone's ride with "Easy A." Her looks could prove a liability; when you are the kind of actress who lands the No. 1 spot on Maxim magazine's Hot 100 list, it's very easy to be pigeonholed as cinematic eye candy. It took Charlize Theron's turn as a greasy-haired, yellow-toothed serial killer in "Monster" for people to take her seriously. And just because Wilde is working a lot these days doesn't mean her film career won't ultimately fizzle as fast as it started. At this point she's still just a string of bad movies away from being Kate Hudson.

Wilde has also chosen a difficult balancing act, at least for a starlet: She has ideas, and she expects directors and writers to listen to them, at a time when up-and-coming actresses of her ilk are still expected to be seen and not heard. When they do speak up, especially publicly, studios often deem them "difficult" and they wither. See: Heigl, Katherine, or Fox, Megan.

"Trying to fight this industry's tendency to celebrate the physical is a waste of time," Wilde said. "So I'm happy to play that game. But I am also thirsty for input. I'm not a dunce whose only skill is knowing how to take a photograph, you know? And at the end of the day I think it makes me slightly less replaceable."

When she was cast in "Cowboys & Aliens" as a gunslinger with a big secret, the writers of "Tron: Legacy," Edward Kitsis and Adam Horowitz, called the new film's writers with a warning: Wilde will want to discuss her character's psychological makeup aggressively. □



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Amy Winehouse, British soul singer, dead at 27

BEN SISARIO

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Amy Winehouse, the British singer who found world-wide fame with a sassy, hip-hop-inflected take on retro soul, yet became a tabloid fixture as her problems with drugs and alcohol led to a strikingly public career collapse, was found dead on Saturday in her apartment in London, police said. She was 27. The cause was not immediately known. The police said that they were investigating the circumstances of the death but that "at this early stage it is being treated as unexplained." With a husky, tart voice and a style that drew equally from the sounds of Motown and the stark storytelling of rap, Winehouse became one of the most acclaimed young singers of the past decade, selling millions of albums, winning five Grammy Awards and starting a British retro-R&B trend that continues today. Yet, almost from the moment she arrived on the international pop scene in early 2007, Winehouse appeared to flirt with self-destruction. She sang of an alcohol-soaked demi-monde in songs like "Rehab" – whose refrain, "They tried to make me go to rehab/ I said, 'No, no, no,'" crystallized Winehouse's persona – and before long it seemed to spill over into her personal life and fueled lurid headlines.

The interplay between Winehouse's life and art made her one of the most fascinating figures in pop

music since Kurt Cobain, whose demise in 1994 – also at age 27 – was preceded

meltdowns and ruined concerts overshadowed her talent as a musician, and



Amy Winehouse performs at the Highline Ballroom in New York. Winehouse, the Grammy-award winning singer who has battled addiction problems for years, was found dead on Saturday at her apartment in London, the police said. She was 27.

(Michael Nagle/The New York Times)

by drug abuse and a frustration with fame as something that could never be escaped. Yet in time, the notoriety from Winehouse's various drug arrests, public

her career never recovered. On Saturday, as the news of Winehouse's death spread, many musicians took to Twitter with deep sadness but no surprise. Lily

Allen, who rose through the British pop scene shortly after Winehouse, called her "such a lost soul." The singer Josh Groban wrote: "Drugs took her gift, her soul, her light, long before they took her life. RIP Amy." As much as her misfortunes eventually took on a sense of predictability, when Winehouse arrived with her breakthrough second album "Back to Black," which was released in Britain in late 2006 and in the United States the next year, she was a fresh voice with a novel take on pop history. She spoke of her love for Frank Sinatra, Theloniou Monk and Motown, as well as Nas, the New York rapper with a sharp eye for narrative detail.

Her greatest love, however, was the 1960s girl groups, something that was evident from the instantly recognizable beehive hairdo and Cleopatra makeup that she borrowed from the Ronettes. In an interview with The Los Angeles Times in 2007, Winehouse explained how a breakup had inspired the songs on "Back to Black" and described her state of mind in terms of music and alcohol. "I didn't want to just wake up drinking, and crying, and listening to Shangri-Las, and go to sleep, and wake up drinking, and listening to the Shangri-Las," she said. "So I turned it into songs, and that's how I got through it." Amy Jade Winehouse was born in Southgate, London, on Sept. 14, 1983. Her mother,

Janis, was a pharmacist, and her father, Mitch, was a cab driver who nursed a love for music. They both survive her, along with a brother, Alex.

Winehouse showed an early talent for performing, as well as an eclecticism that would characterize her later work.

She loved her father's Sinatra records, but she also liked hip-hop; at age 10, she and a friend formed a rap group called Sweet 'n' Sour that Winehouse later described as "the little white Jewish Salt-N-Pepa." (Winehouse was the "sour" half.) She attended the Sylvia Young Theater School in London and later went to the BRIT School for Performing Arts and Technology, a free performing arts school there that counts several other recent female pop stars among its alumnae, including Allen and Adele, another young singer who is sometimes seen as picking up the neo-soul mantle from Winehouse.

In 2003, at age 19, Winehouse released her first album, "Frank." Influenced by jazz, it established her as a rising star in Britain. But "Back to Black," recorded with the producers Mark Ronson and Salaam Remi, and the Brooklyn retro-soul band the Dap-Kings, made her an international sensation. With thick horns and club-ready hip-hop beats, the album was a darkly stylish update of classic 1960s R&B, and it was adored by critics and the public alike. □

The end of awe in Ireland and Britain

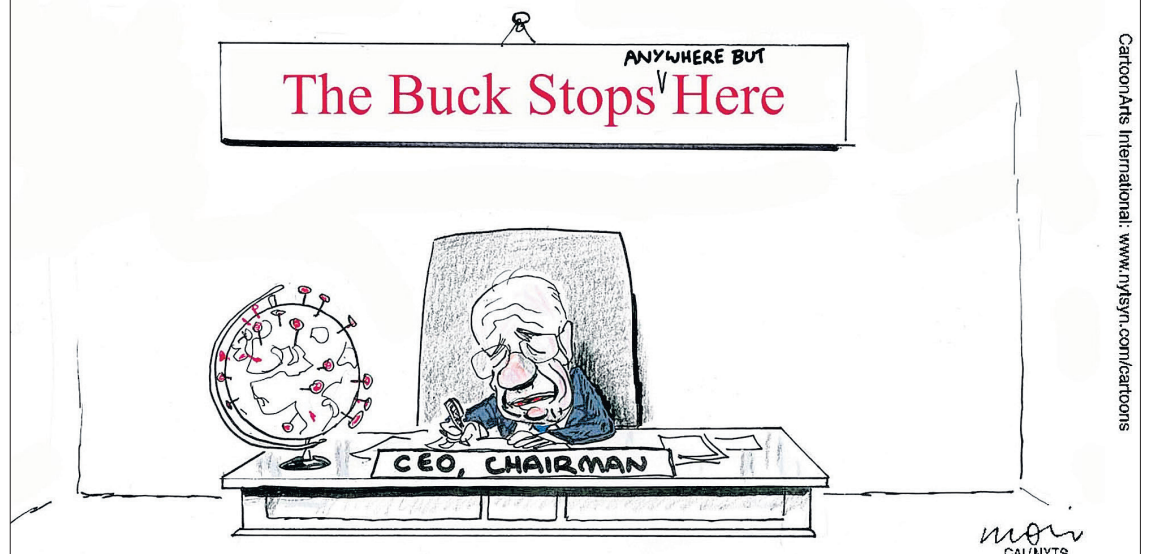


MAUREEN DOWD
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Wednesday found both the British prime minister and the Irish taoiseach passionately addressing their parliaments about the demystified lords of their universes. Frantically distancing himself from the pope of Fleet Street, David Cameron sardonically assured riled-up lawmakers that he had never seen Rebekah Brooks in her PJs because he had not attended Gordon Brown's wife's slumber party at Chequers with Wendi Deng and Elisabeth Murdoch in 2008. He conceded that he should not have ignored warnings from the palace and elsewhere against bringing a capo from the sulfurous Murdoch gang into his inner circle. Across the Irish Sea in Dublin, Enda Kenny took on the actual pope, making a blazing speech about the Vatican's unconscionable behavior in the pedophilia scandal. After 17 years of revolting revelations, Kenny said the latest report on the Cloyne diocese in County Cork exposed "an attempt by the Holy See to frustrate an inquiry in a sovereign, democratic republic as little as three years ago, not three decades ago." The report, he said, "excavates the dysfunction, disconnection, elitism, the narcissism that dominate the culture of the Vatican to this day. The rape and torture of children were downplayed or 'managed' to uphold, instead, the primacy of the institution, its power, standing and 'reputation.' "Far from listening to evidence of humiliation and betrayal with St. Benedict's 'ear of the heart,' the Vatican's reaction was to parse and analyze it with the gimlet eye of a canon lawyer. This calculated, withering position being the polar opposite of the radicalism, humility and compassion upon which the Roman Church was founded." Pulling back the curtain to expose the profane amid the sacred would have been remarkable coming from any leader in one of the many countries scarred by pedophile priests, but from the devoutly Catholic prime minister of a nation whose constitution once enshrined the special position of the church, it was breathtaking. The Irish were taken aback by the ire of the ordinarily amiable, soft-spoken Kenny, the longest-serving parliamentarian in the land. In his first few months as taoiseach, the 60-year-old had not given

any sign that he could throw such Zeus-style thunderbolts. But bankrupt and battered Eire, which needed a shot of muscular national pride, was thrilled with his emphatic articulation of their revulsion at the tragedy, and his assertion of Ireland as a sovereign republic not under the thumb of Rome. "If you look at some of his predecessors, going right back 50 years, they would have been very much of the view that they were Catholics first and politicians second," said Diarmaid Ferriter, a professor of modern Irish history at University College Dublin. Sounding like he could have been talking about Rupert Murdoch's fief as well, Ferriter observed: "There has been this very obvious and planned and hugely arrogant policy of obfuscation and deliberate delaying tactics and complete avoidance of responsibility on the part of the Vatican. They were actually treating the sovereign government of Ireland with complete contempt." He added: "We're fed up with hearing about canon law. This is a republic, it's about civil law." Garry O'Sullivan, editor of The Irish Catholic, compared the resonance of the speech to the French revolution, without the violence. "The French Republic didn't kick out the Catholic Church, but they set up a French Catholic Church and kicked out Rome," he said. "Kenny has tapped into a vein in the Irish psyche, people saying, 'Well done for standing up to those bloody bishops and the pope.' It was lancing a boil." Like other elites in shaken Ireland, like the multimillionaire bankers and real estate developers, the church elite is rapidly losing clout. "The mighty have fallen from their thrones," O'Sullivan said. Diarmuid Martin, the archbishop of Dublin, who has been frozen out by the Vatican and his fellow Irish bishops for his tender solicitude toward abuse victims, teared up on Irish TV talking about Kenny's *cri de coeur*. What church "cabal" is this in the Vatican or Ireland, he asked, "who try to undermine what is being done, or simply refuse to understand what is being done?" In Britain and in Ireland, two dictatorial institutions that once dominated with fearsome power are crumbling, brought low by high-handed cultures injured even to crimes against children. A large part of the strategy of the Vatican and Rupert Murdoch in acquiring power was to create an aura of invincibility, a hallowed mystique. But those mythologies are cracking, and people are no longer afraid to confront these empires' corrupt practices and vast cover-ups. It is stirring to watch people who have long been cowed finally speaking up, shedding their fear of the authoritarian men at the top who owed their power to the awe of the people. □

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Republicans, zealots and our security



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF
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If China or Iran threatened our national credit rating and tried to drive up our interest rates, or if they sought to damage our education system, we would erupt in outrage. Well, wake up to the national security threat. Only it's not coming from abroad, but from our own domestic extremists. We tend to think of national security narrowly as the risk of a military or terrorist attack. But national security is about protecting our people and our national strength – and the blunt truth is that the biggest threat to America's national security this summer doesn't come from China, Iran or any other foreign power. It comes from budget machinations, and budget maniacs, at home. House Republicans start from a legitimate concern about rising long-term debt. Politicians are usually focused only on short-term issues, so it would be commendable to see the Tea Party wing of the Republican Party seriously focused on containing long-term debt. But on this issue, many House Republicans aren't serious, they're just obsessive in a destructive way. The upshot is that in their effort to protect the American economy from debt, some of them are willing to drag it over the cliff of default. It is not exactly true that this would be our first default. We

defaulted in 1790. By some definitions, we defaulted on certain gold obligations in 1933. And in 1979, the United States had trouble managing payouts to some individual investors on time (partly because of a failure of word processing equipment) and thus was in technical default.

Yet even that brief lapse in 1979 raised interest payments in the United States. Terry L. Zivney, a finance professor at Ball State University and co-author of a scholarly paper about the episode, says the 1979 default increased American government borrowing costs by 0.6 of a percentage point indefinitely.

Any deliberate and sustained interruption this year could have a greater impact. We would see higher interest rates on mortgages, car loans, business loans and credit cards.

American government borrowing would also become more expensive. In February, the Congressional Budget Office noted that a 1 percentage point rise in interest rates could add more than \$1 trillion to borrowing costs over a decade.

In other words, Republican zeal to lower debts could result in increased interest expenses and higher debts. Their mania to save taxpayers could cost taxpayers. That suggests not governance so much as fanaticism.

More broadly, a default would leave America a global laughingstock. Our "soft power," our promotion of democracy around the world, and our influence would all take a hit. The spectacle of paralysis in the world's largest economy is already bewildering to many countries.

If there is awe for our military prowess and delight in our movies and music, there is scorn for our political/economic management.

While one danger to national security comes from the risk of default, another comes from overzealous budget cuts – especially in education, at the local, state and national levels.

When we cut to the education bone, we're not preserving our future but undermining it.

It should be a national disgrace that the U.S. government has eliminated spending for major literacy programs in the last few months, with scarcely a murmur of dissent.

Consider Reading Is Fundamental, a 45-year-old nonprofit program that has cost the federal government only \$25 million annually. It's a public-private partnership with 400,000 volunteers, and it puts books in the hands of low-income children. The program helped 4 million American children improve their reading skills last year. Now it has lost all federal support.

"They have made a real difference for millions of kids," Kyle Zimmer, founder of First Book, another literacy program that I've admired, said of Reading Is Fundamental. "It is a tremendous loss that their federal support has been cut. We are going to pay for these cuts in education for generations."

Education programs like these aren't quick fixes, and the relation between spending and outcomes is uncertain and complex. Nurturing reading skills is a slog rather than a sprint – but without universal literacy we have no hope of spreading opportunity, fighting crime or chipping away at poverty.

"The attack on literacy programs reflects a broader assault on education programs," said Rosa DeLauro, a Democratic member of Congress from Connecticut. She notes that Republicans want to cut everything from early childhood programs to Pell grants for college students. Republican proposals have singled out some 43 education programs for elimination, but it's not seen as equally essential to end tax loopholes on hedge fund managers.

So let's remember not only the national security risks posed by Iran and al-Qaida. Let's also focus on the risks, however unintentional, from domestic zealots. □

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